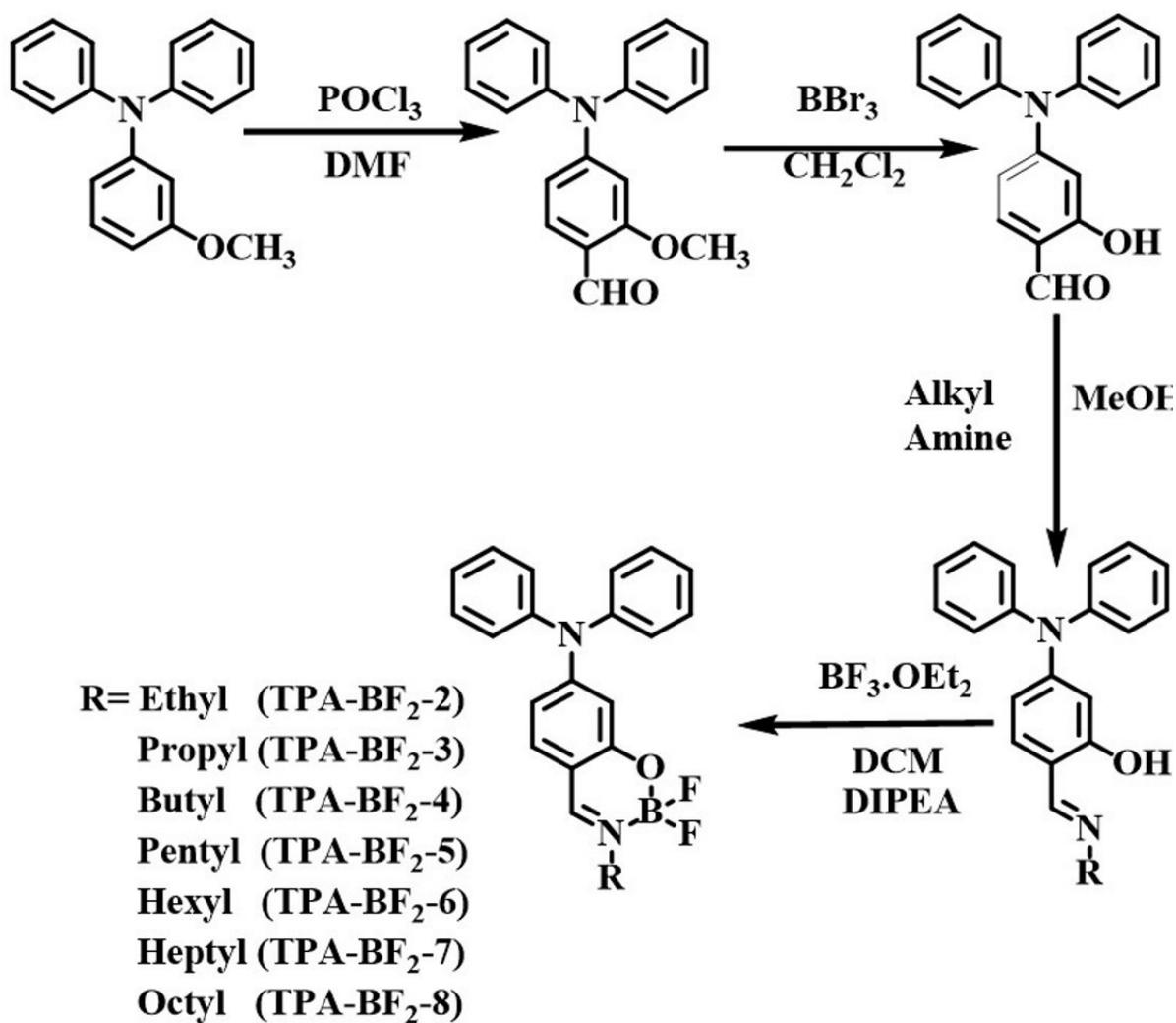
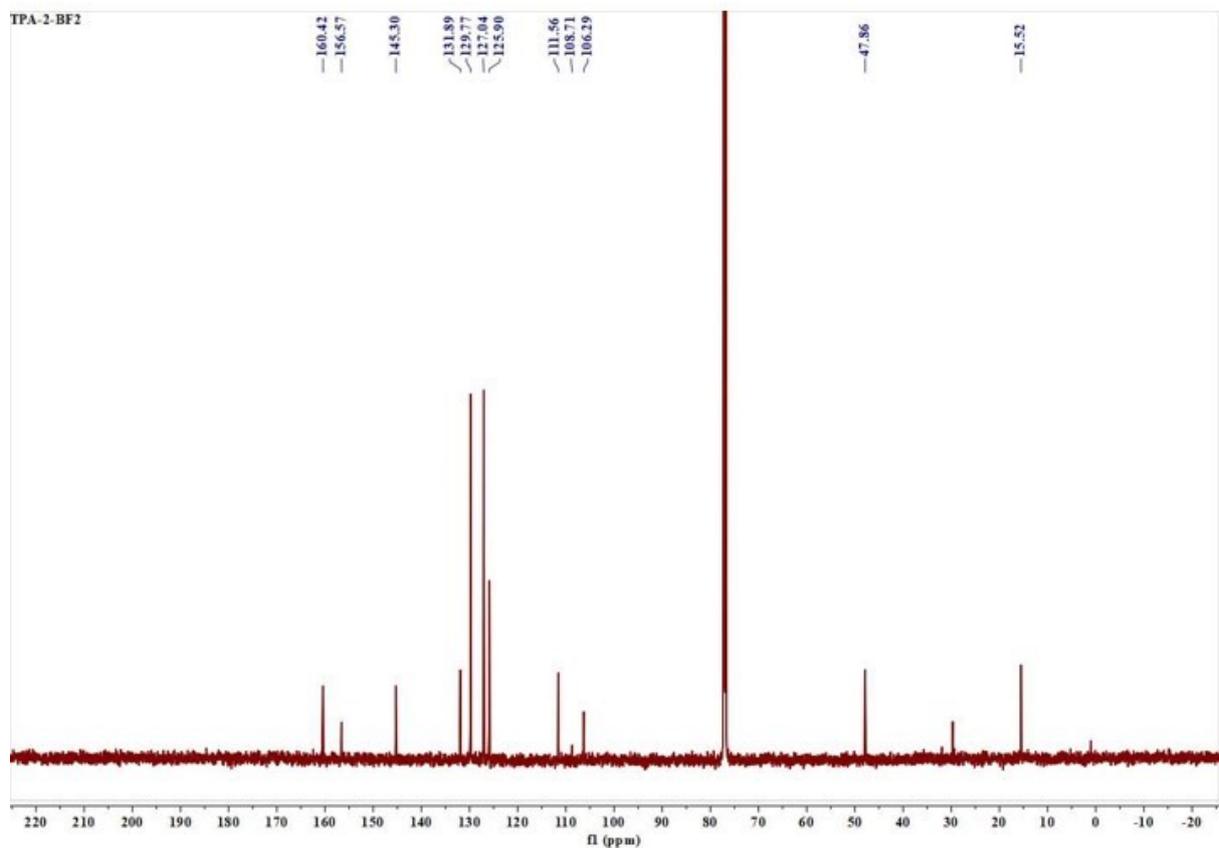
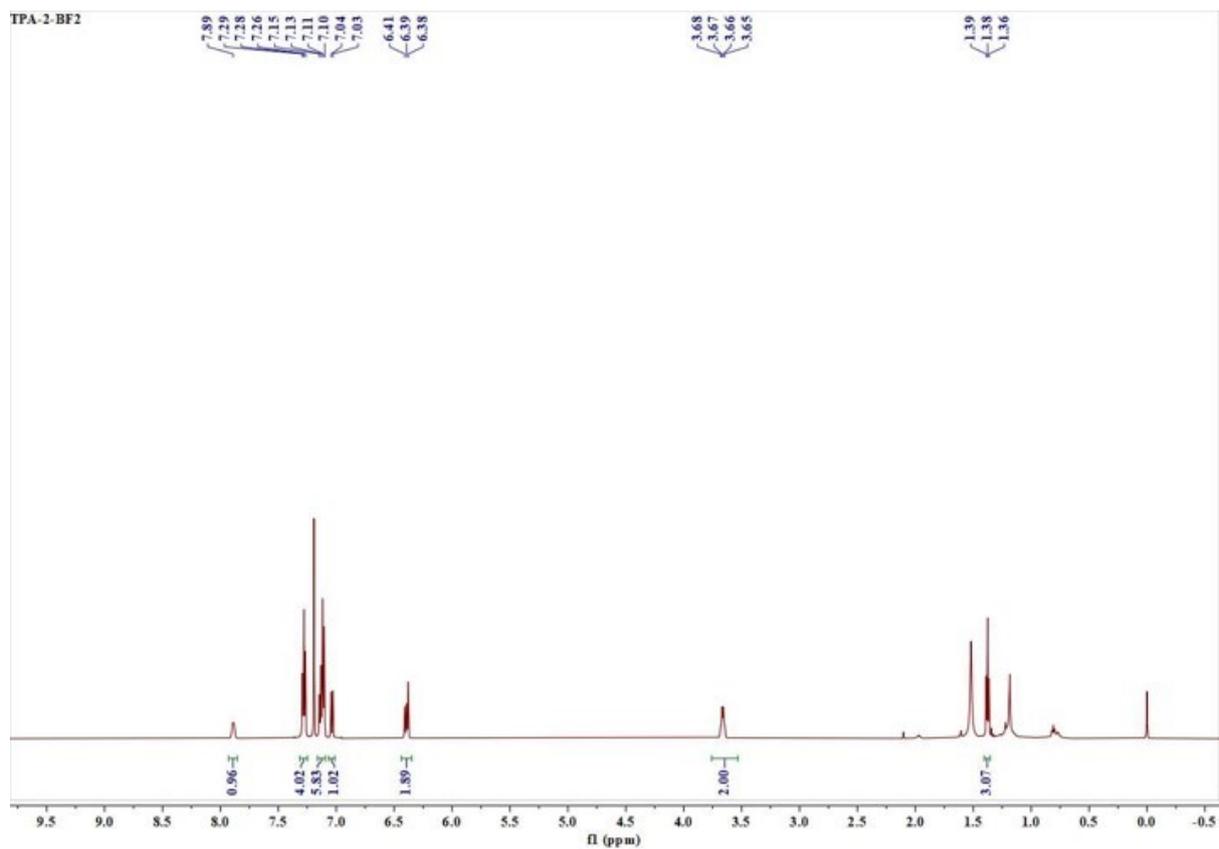


### Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

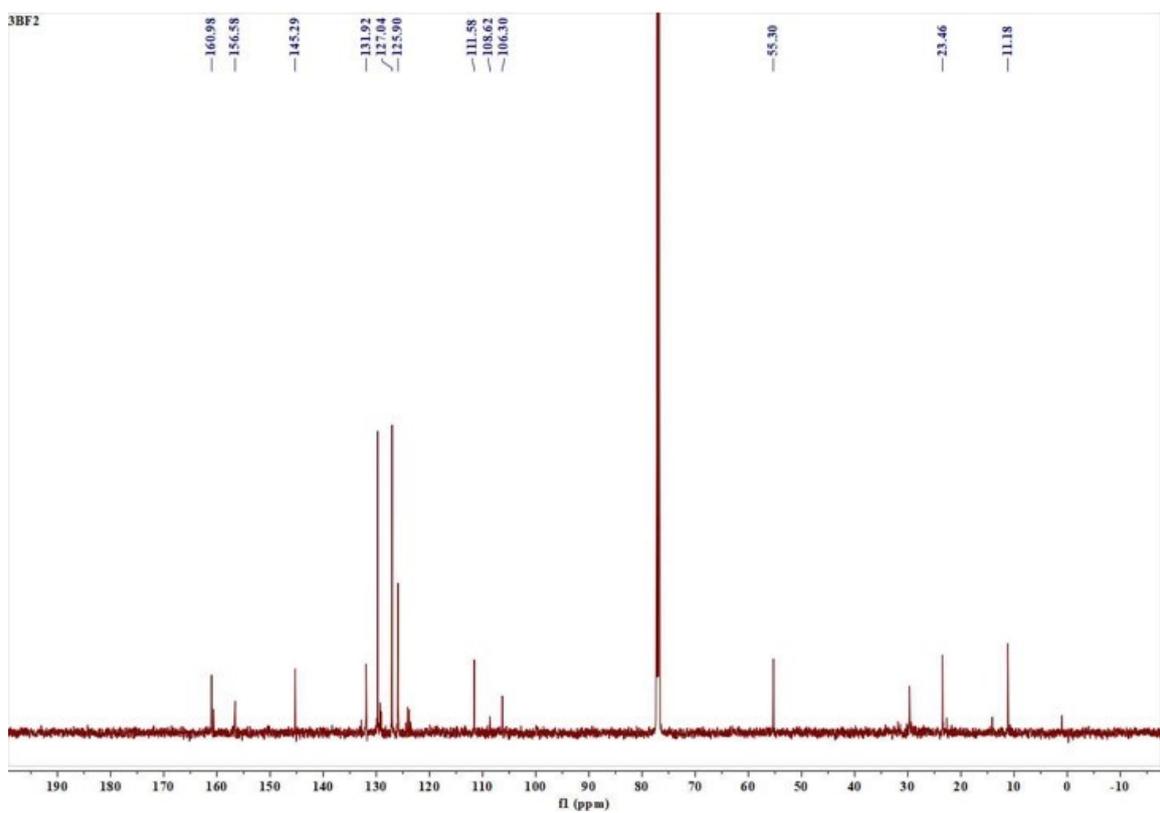
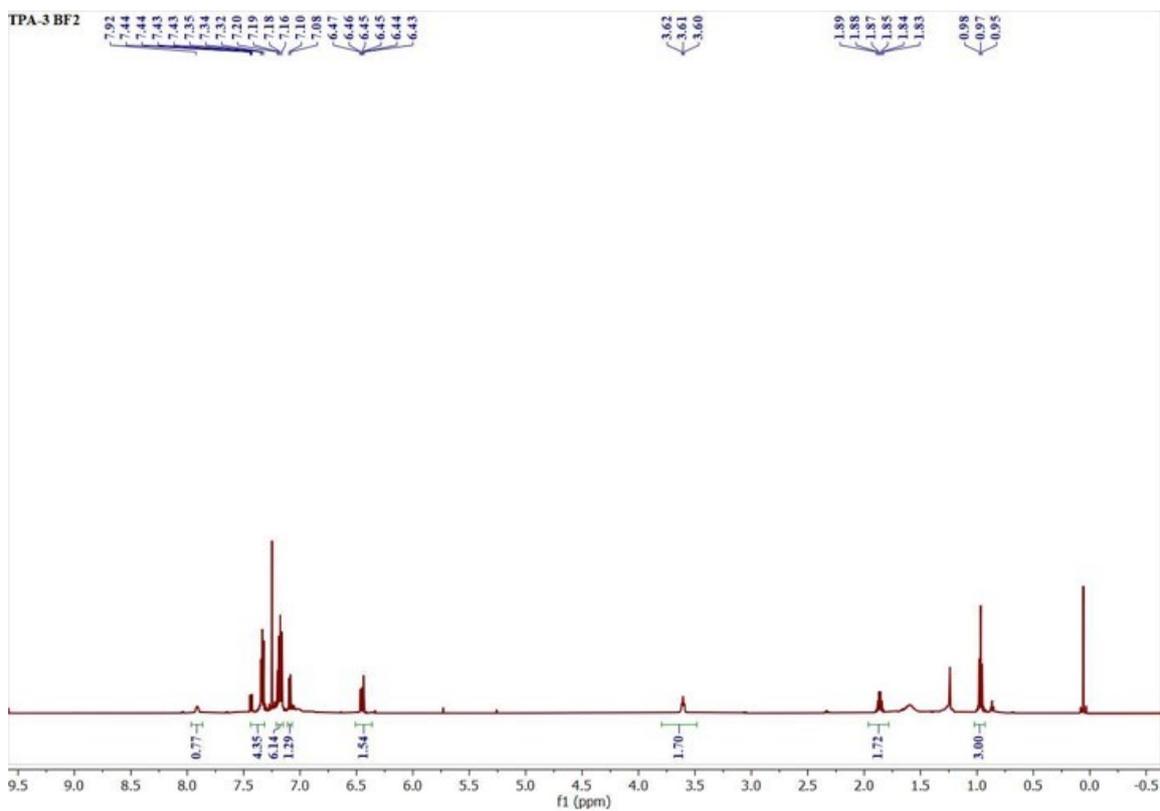
#### Triphenylamine-boron complexes: Molecular thermometer and alkyl chain controlled molecular fluorescent liquids



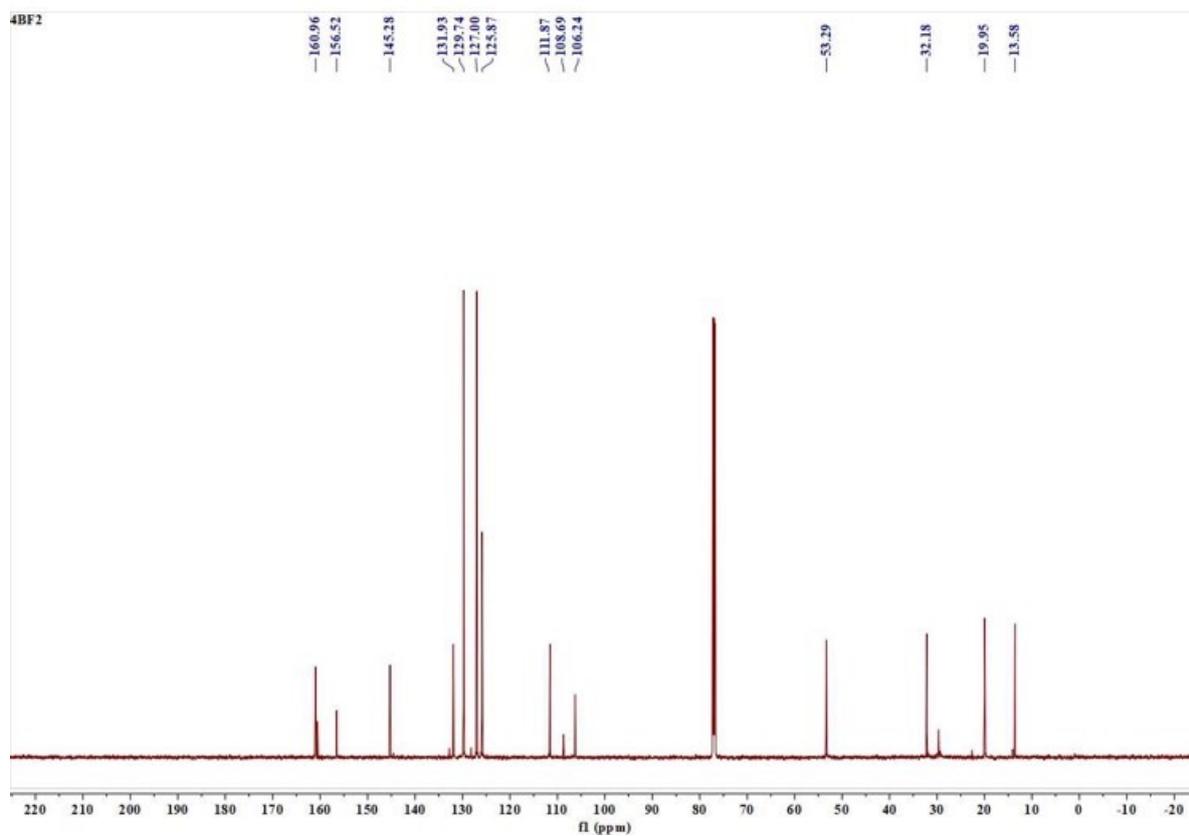
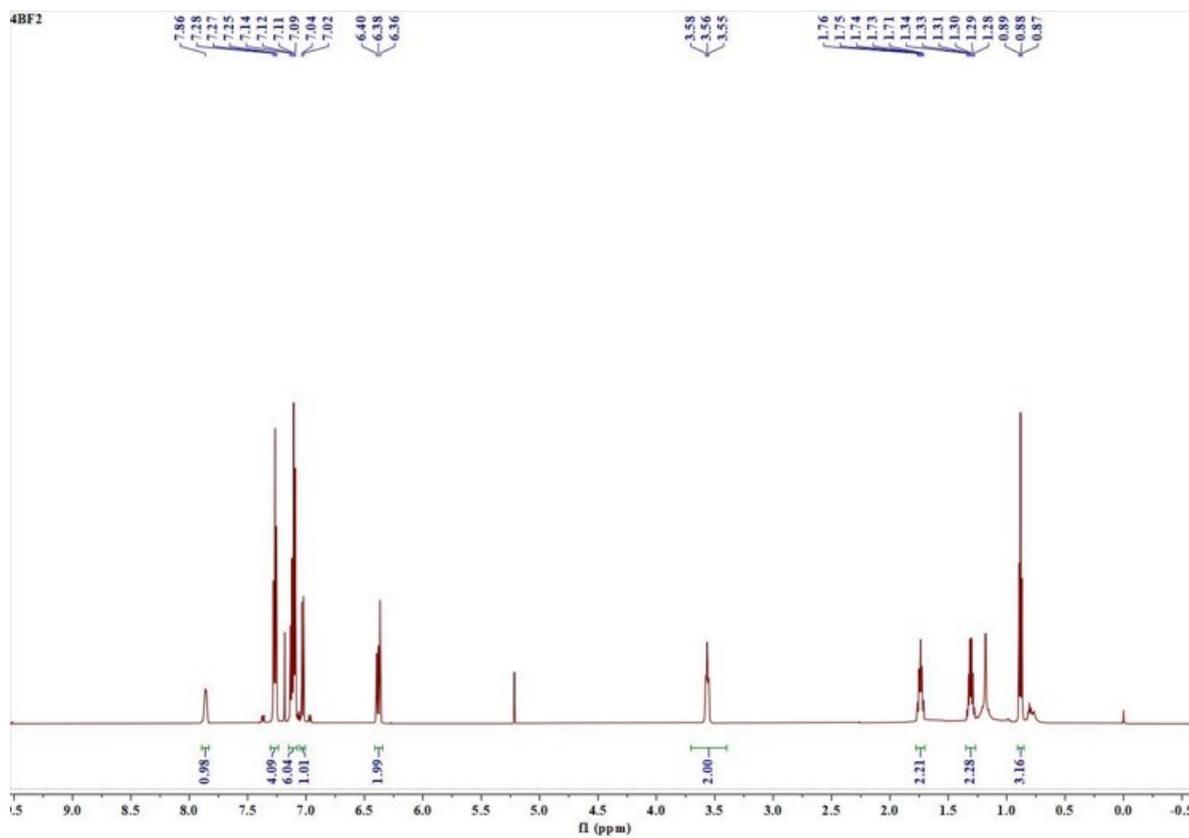
Scheme S1. Synthesis of TPA-BF<sub>2</sub> complexes.



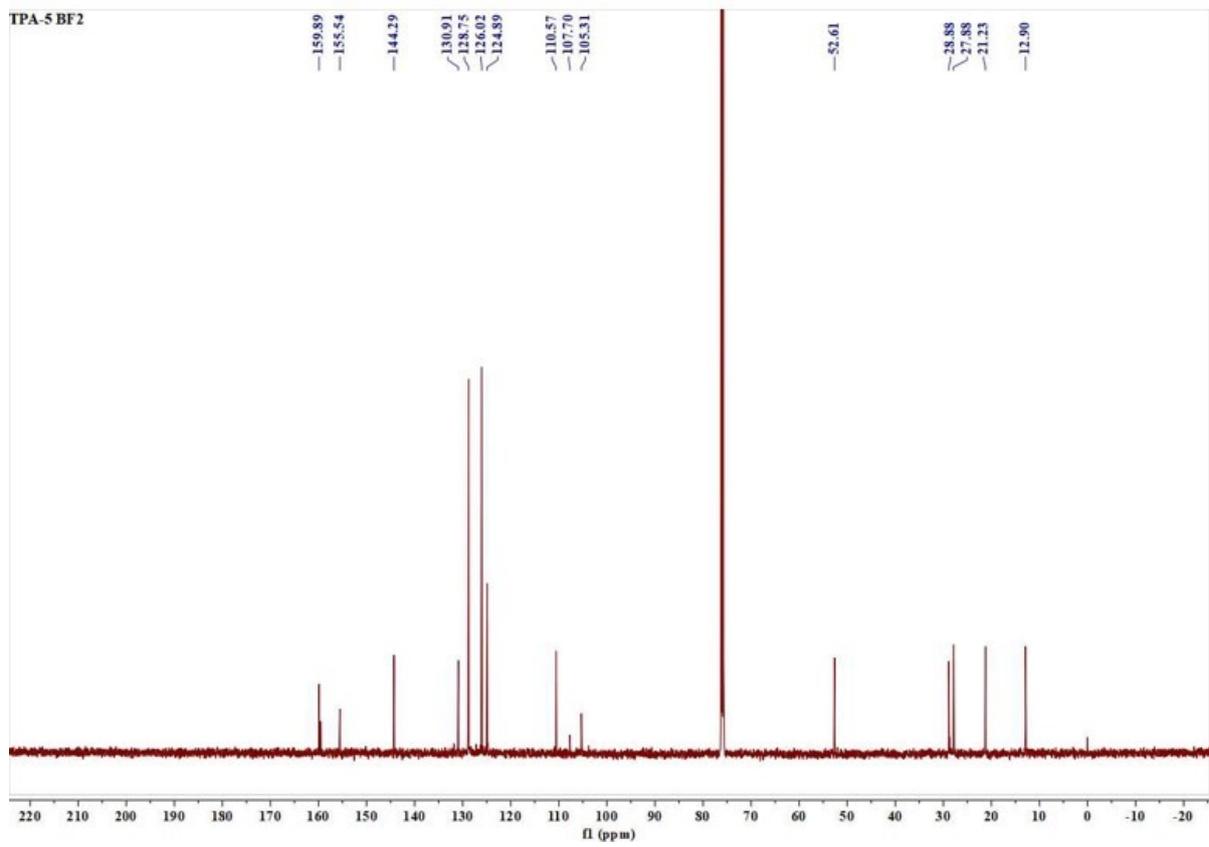
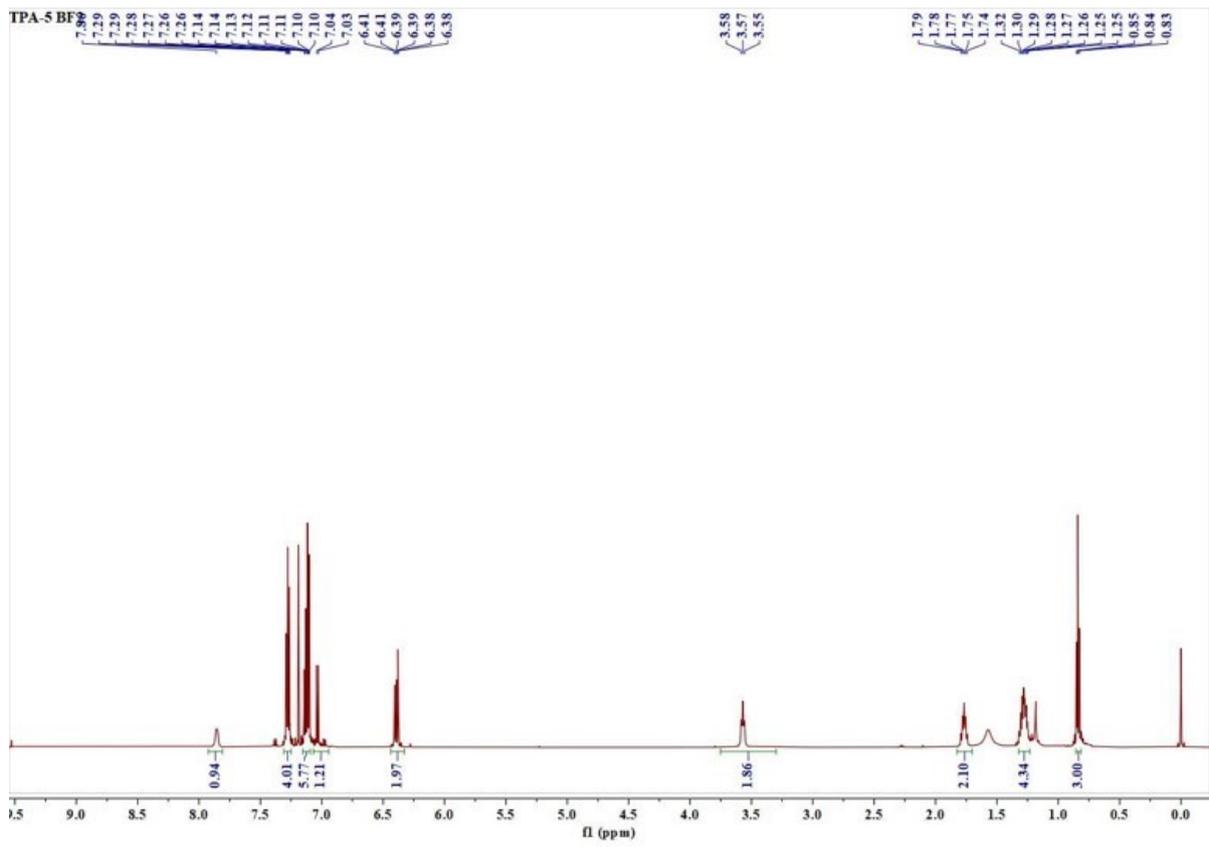
$^1\text{H}$  &  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-2



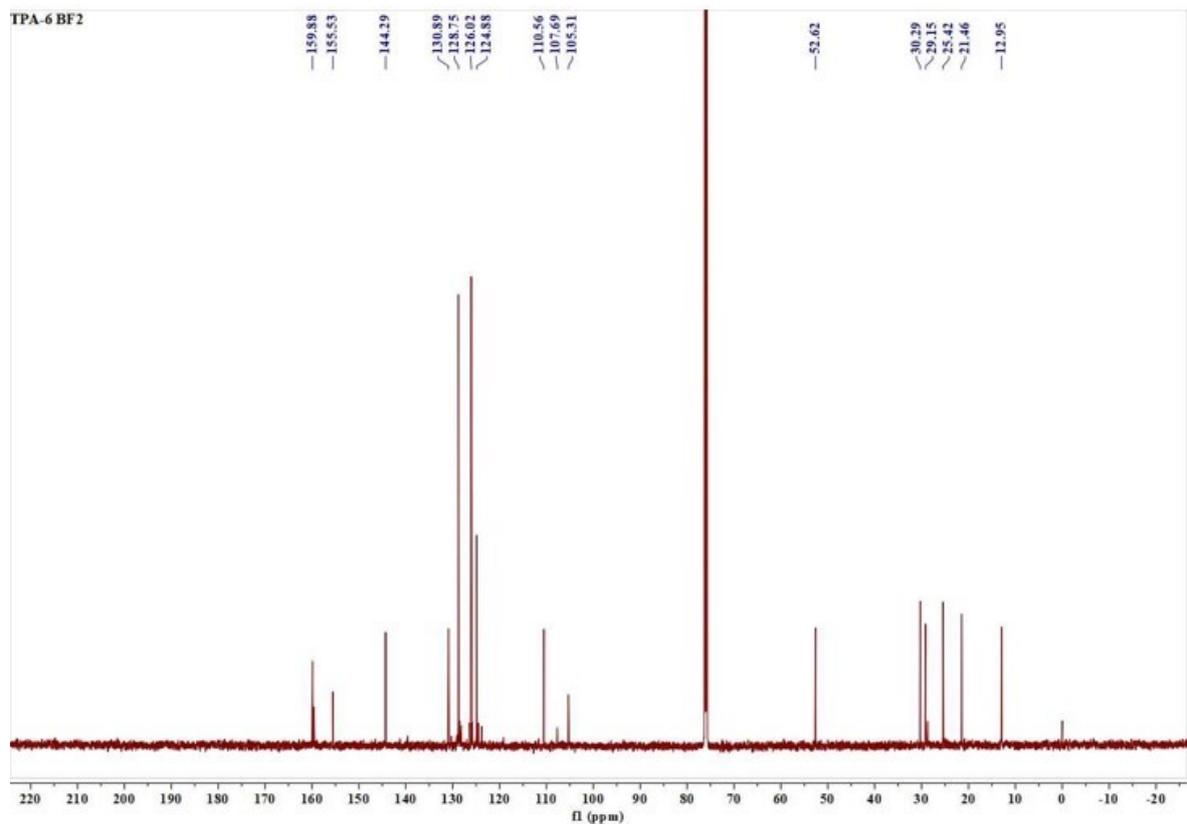
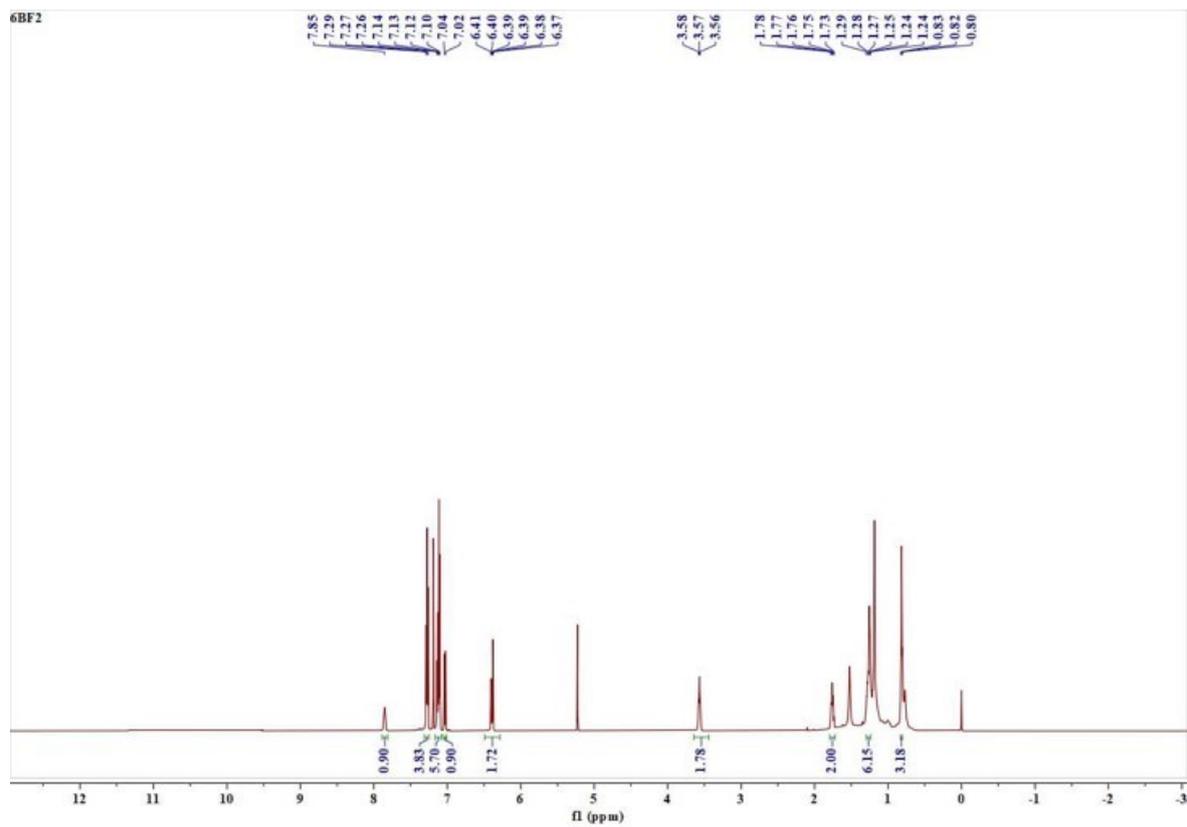
$^1\text{H}$  &  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-3



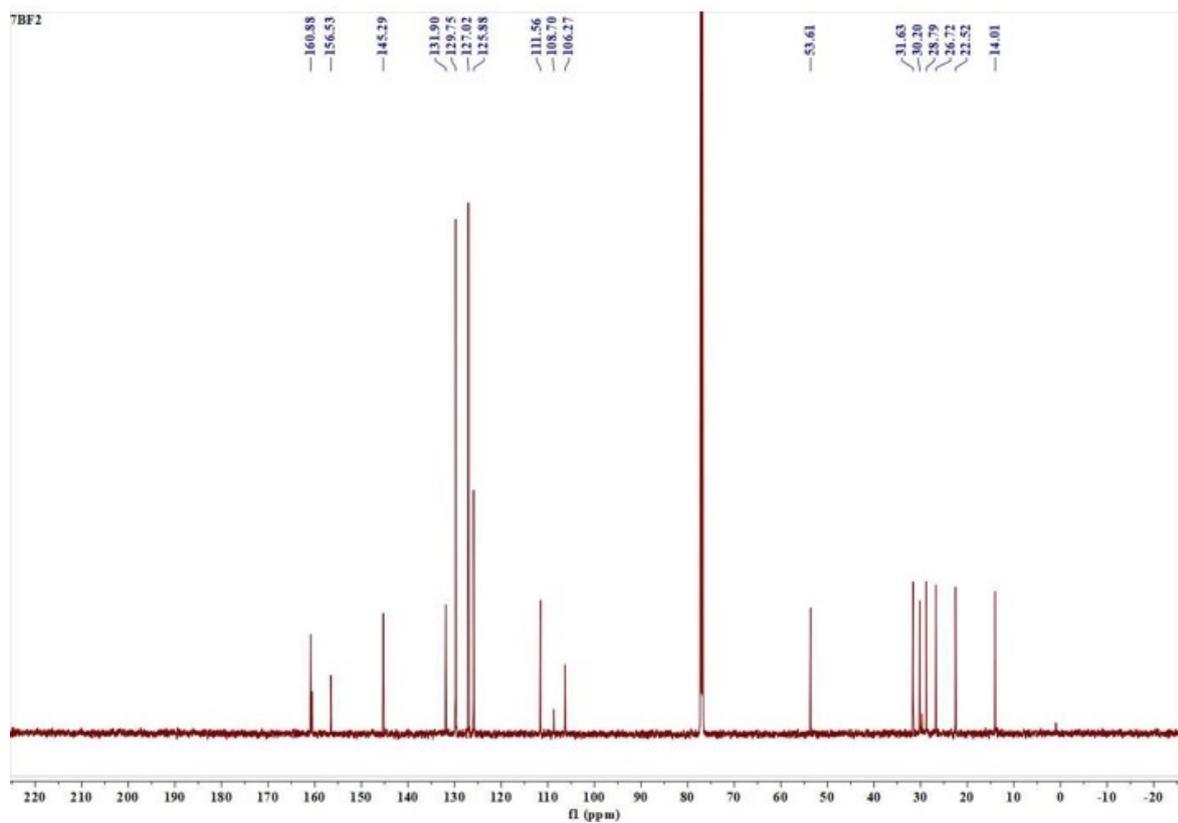
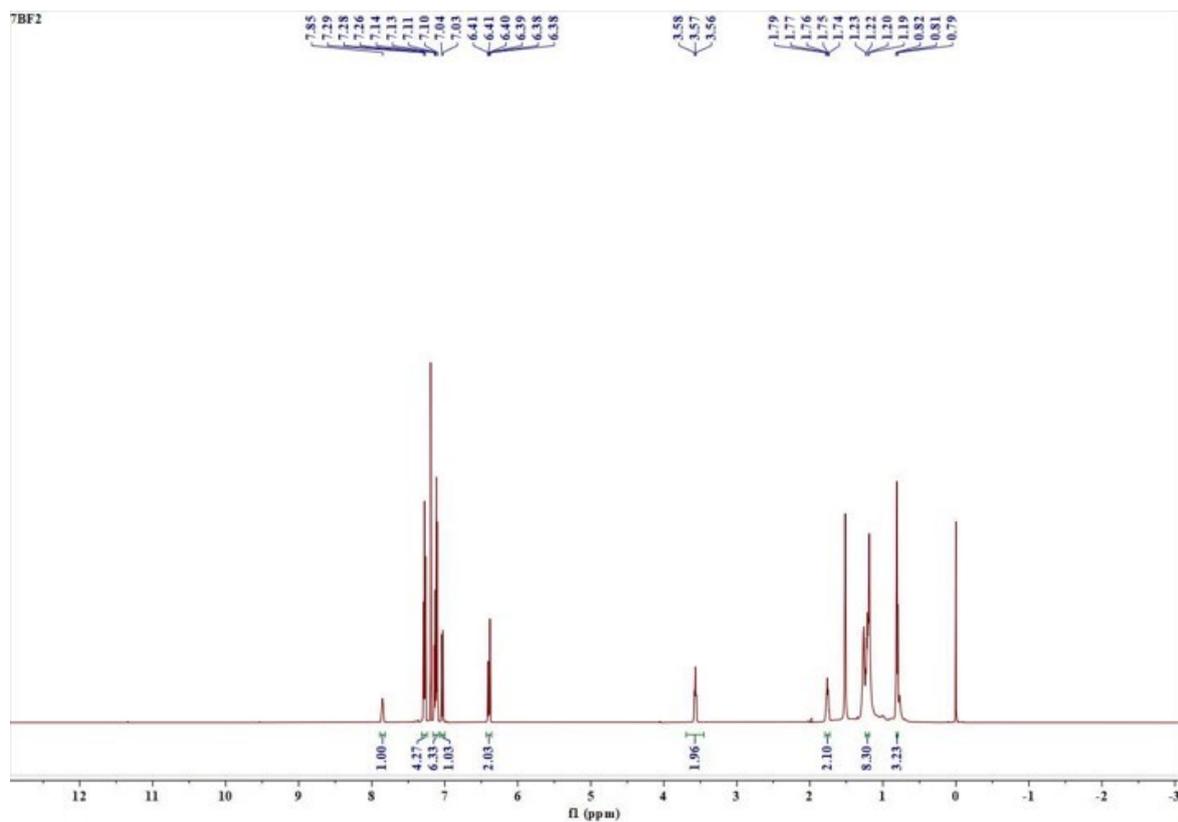
$^1\text{H}$  &  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of TPA- $\text{BF}_2$ -4



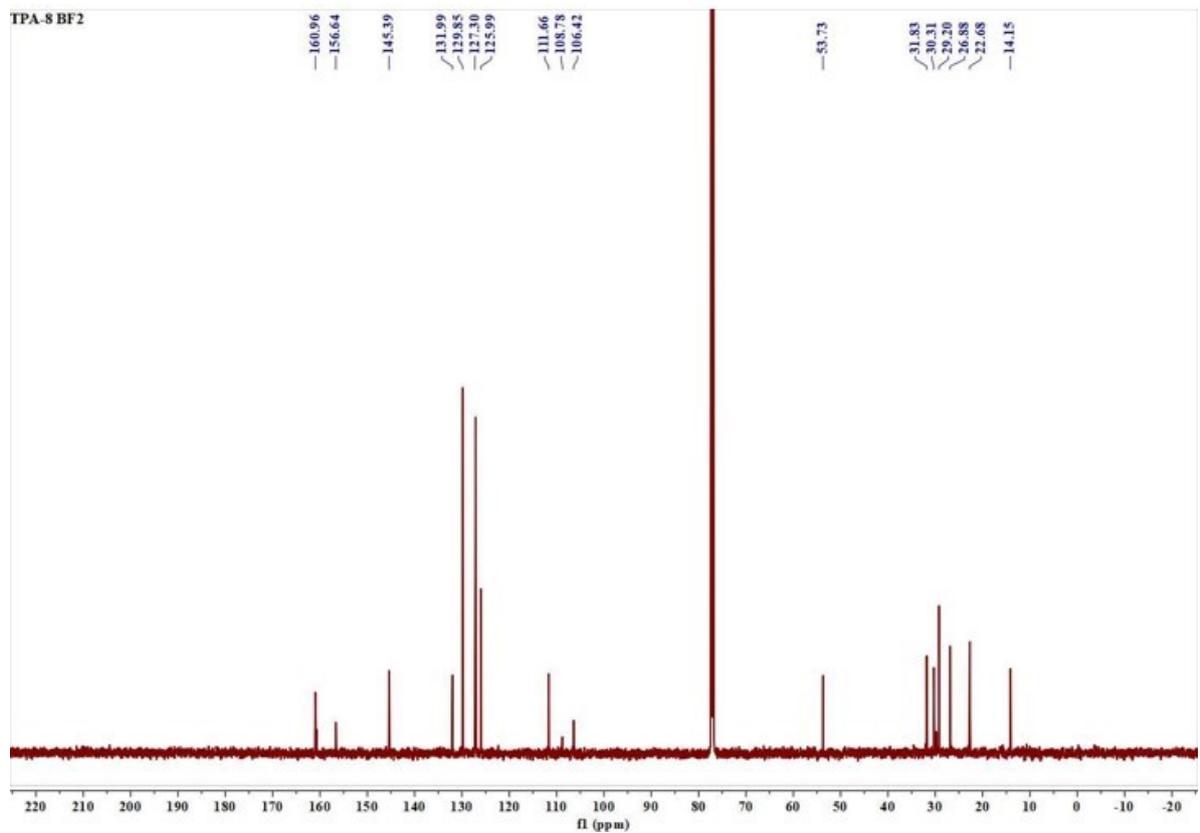
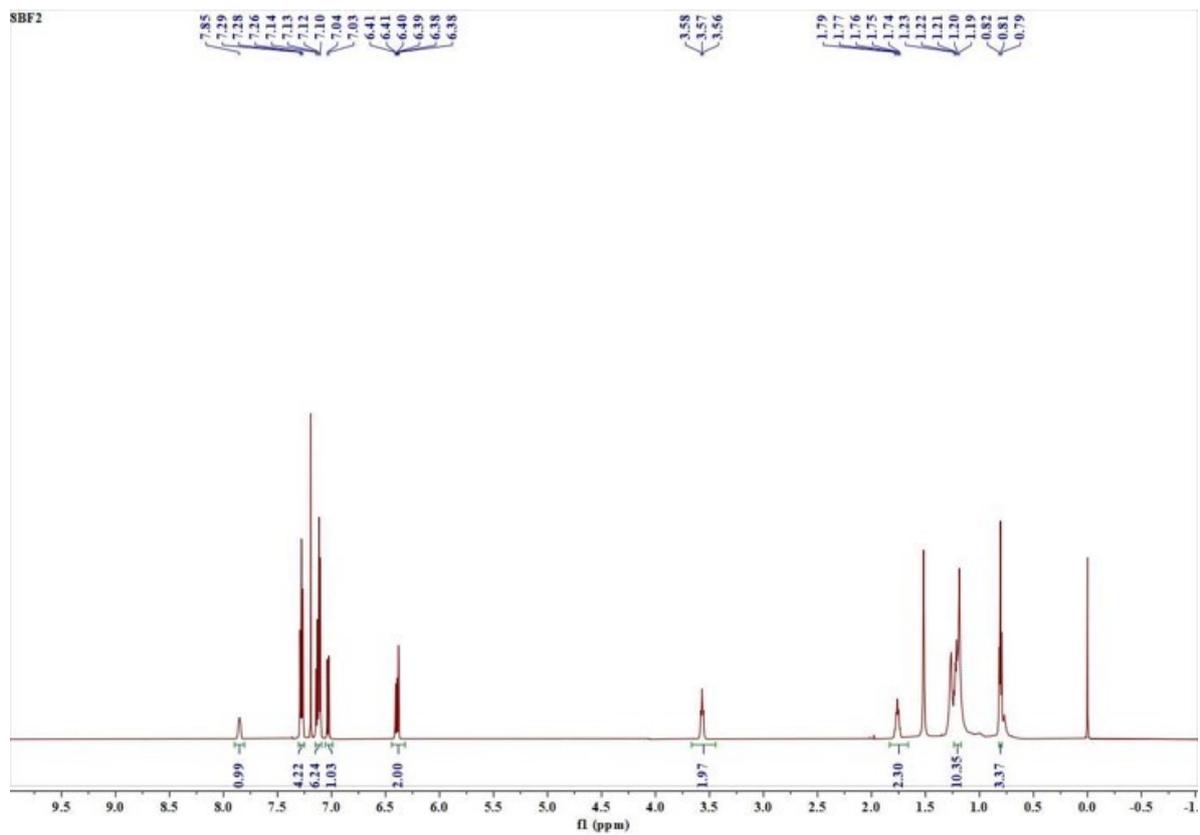
<sup>1</sup>H & <sup>13</sup>C NMR of TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-5



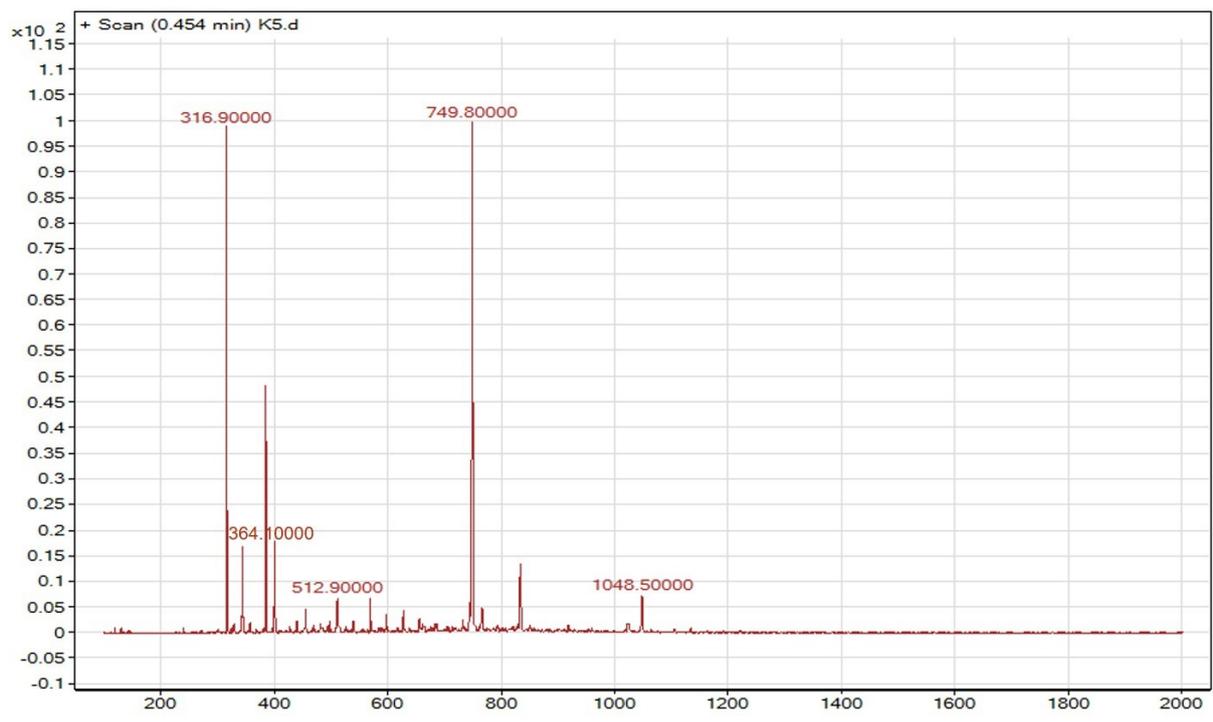
$^1\text{H}$  &  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of TPA- $\text{BF}_2$ -6



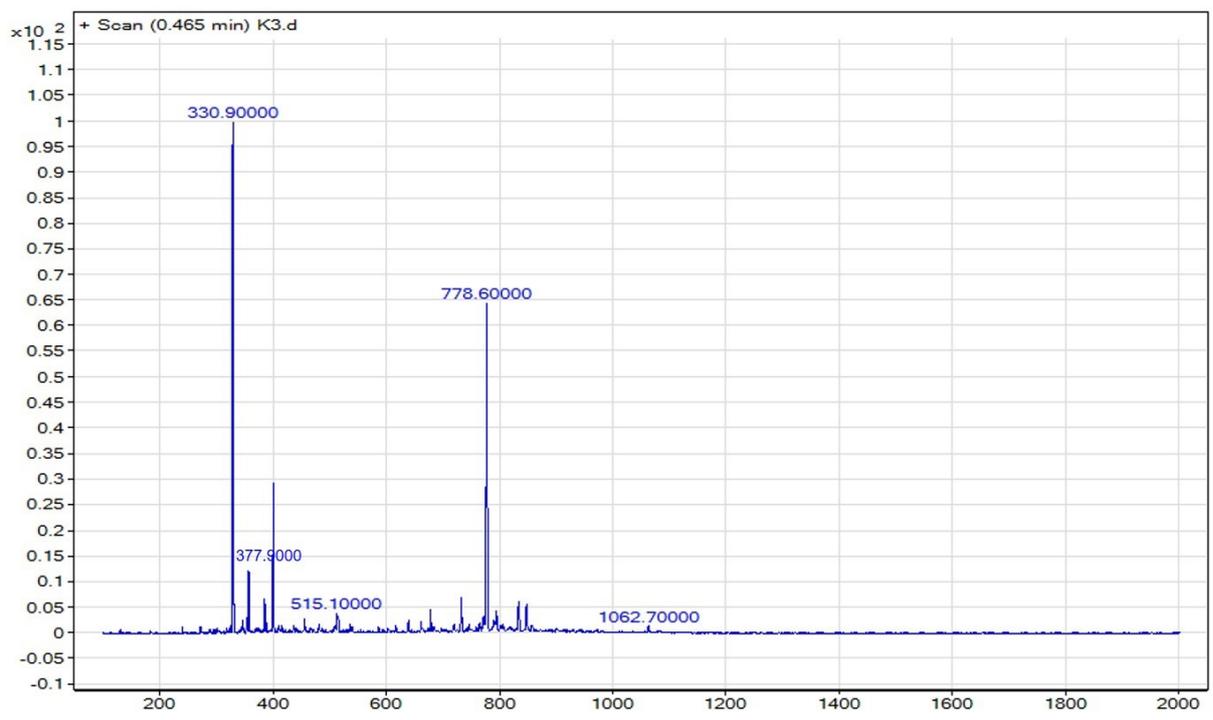
$^1\text{H}$  &  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of TPA- $\text{BF}_2$ -7



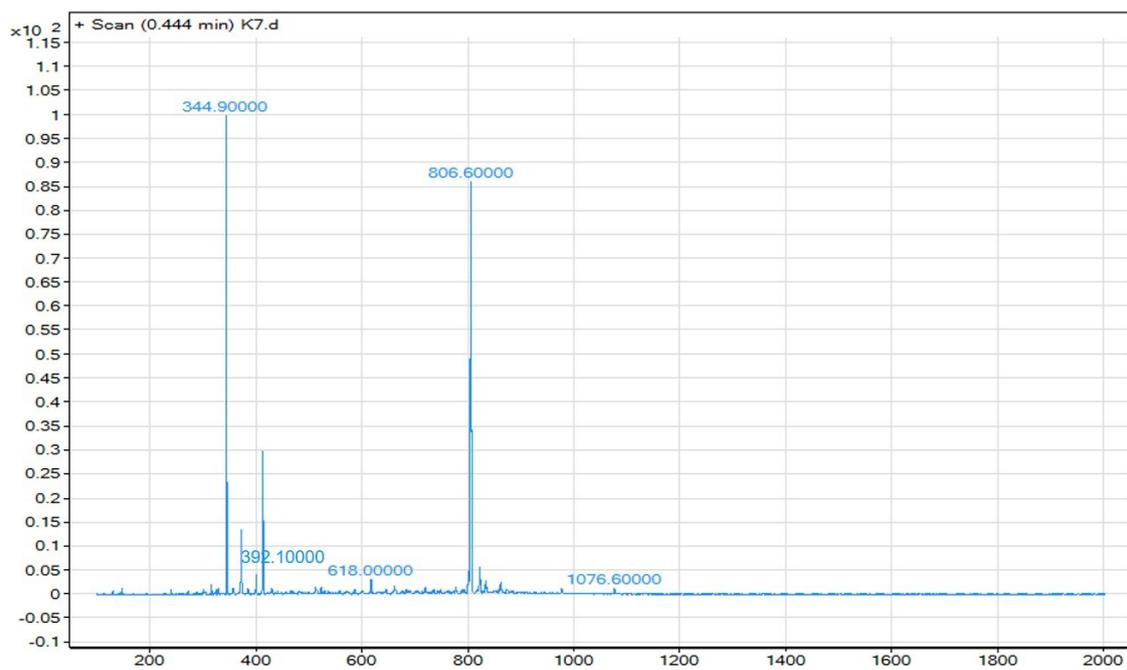
$^1\text{H}$  &  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of TPA- $\text{BF}_2$ -8



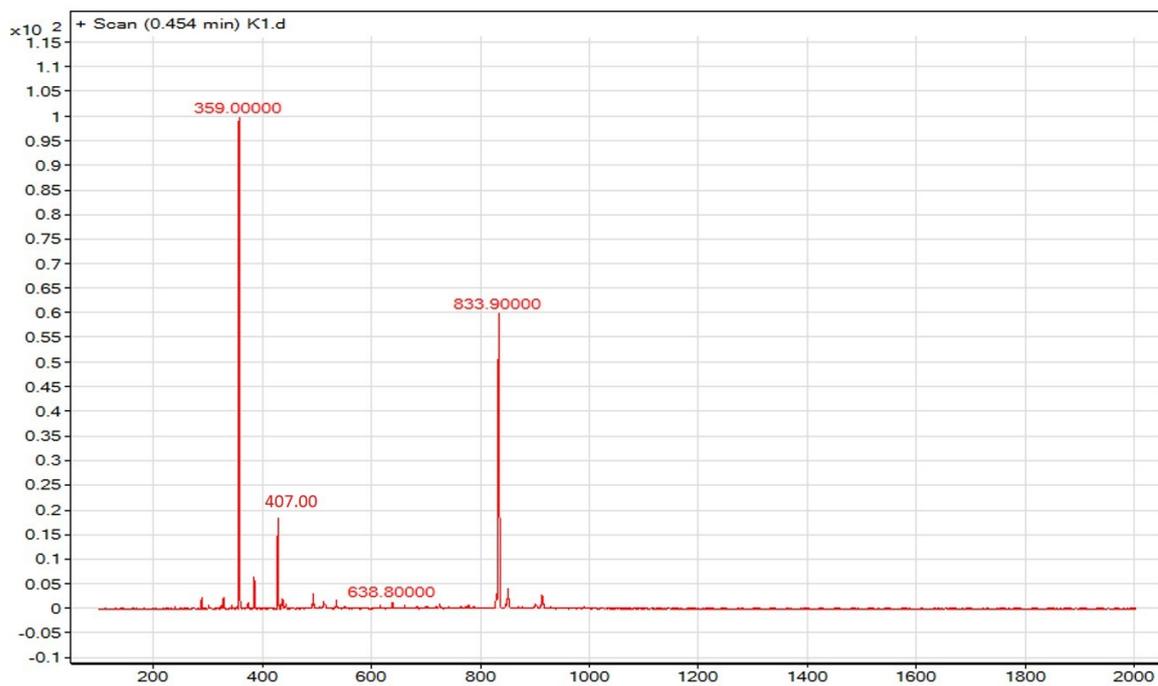
**TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-2:** m/z calculated C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>19</sub>BF<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O (M + H): 364.16, found: 364.10



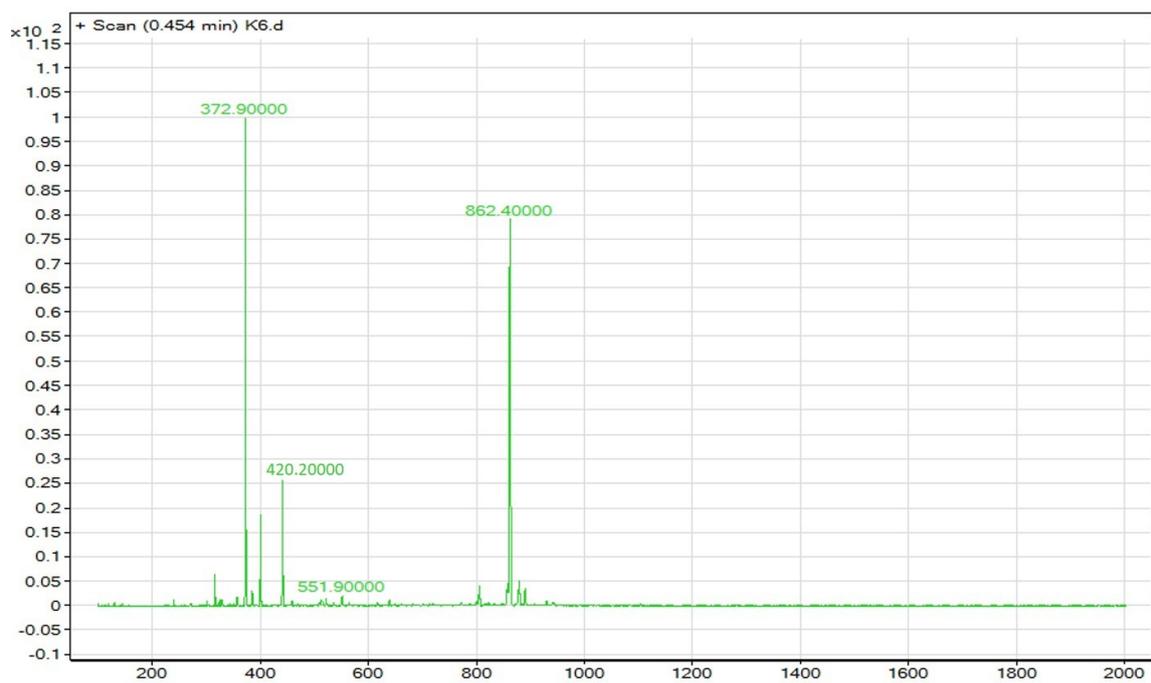
**TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-3:** m/z calculated C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>21</sub>BF<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O (M + H): 378.17, found: 377.90.



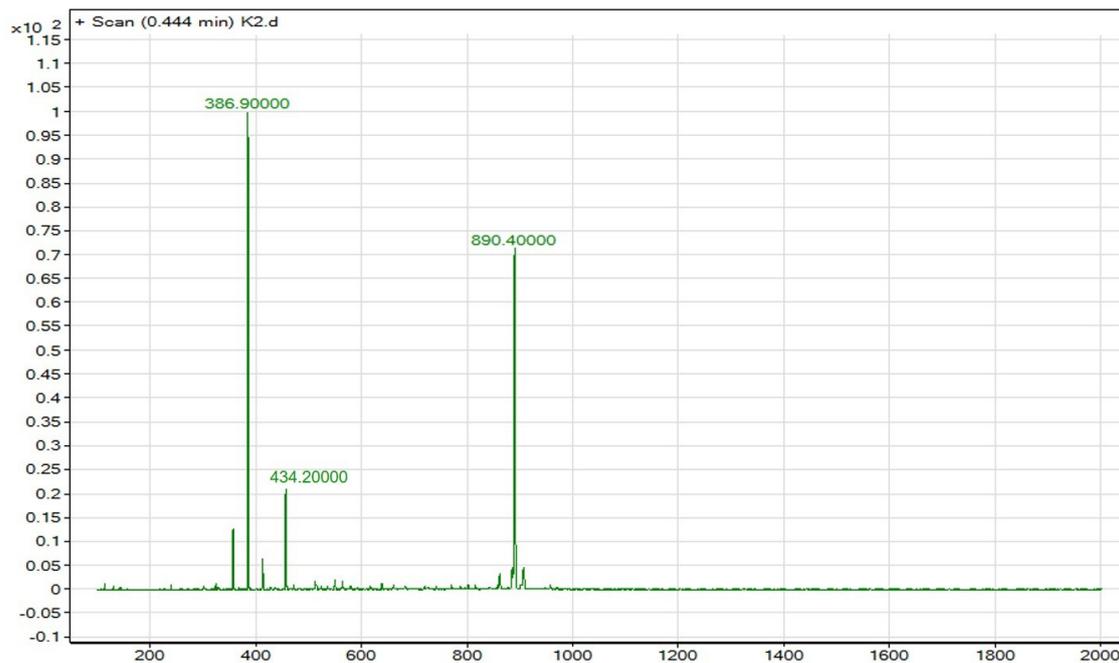
TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-4: m/z calculated C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>23</sub>BF<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O (M + H): 392.19, found: 392.10.



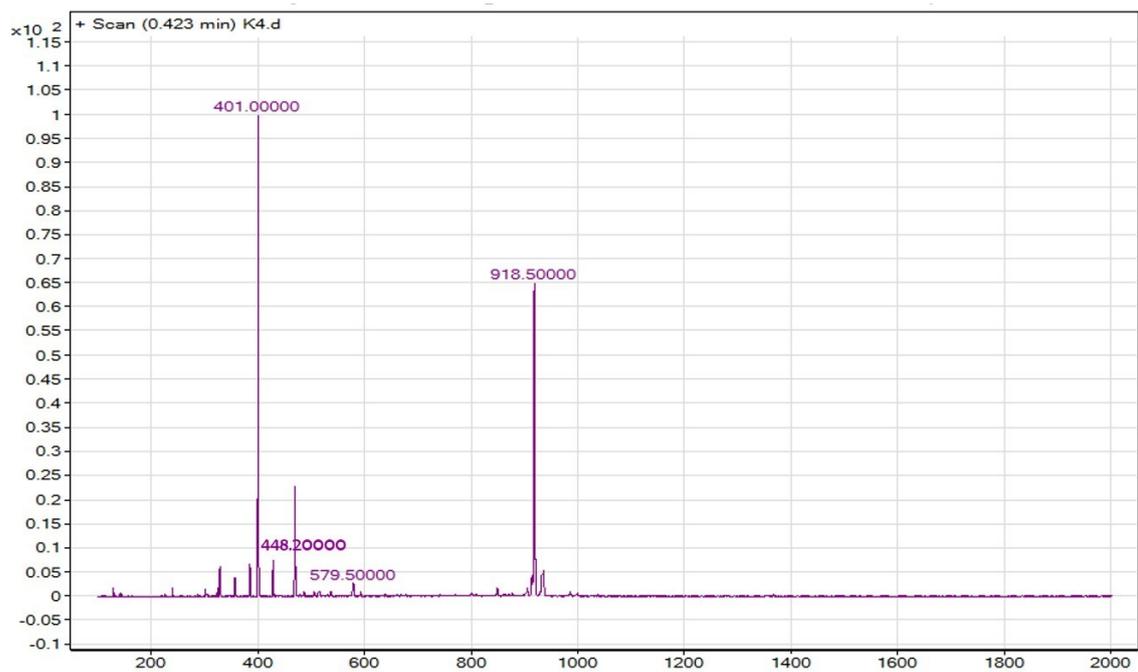
**TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-5:** m/z calculated C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>25</sub>BF<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O (M + H): 406.20, found: 407.00.



**TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-6:** m/z calculated C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>27</sub>BF<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O (M + H): 420.23, found: 420.20.



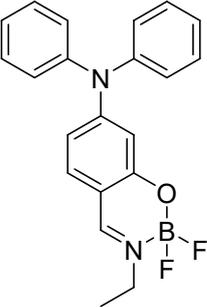
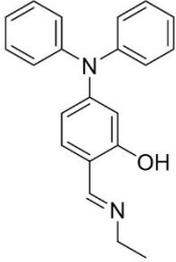
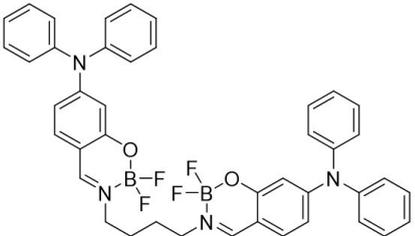
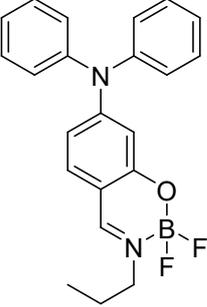
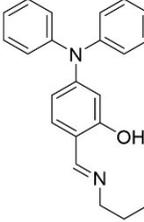
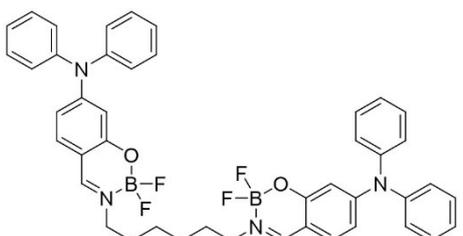
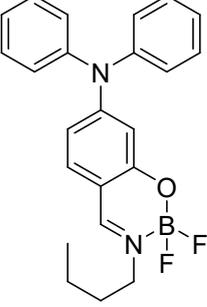
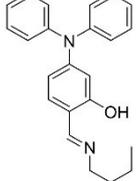
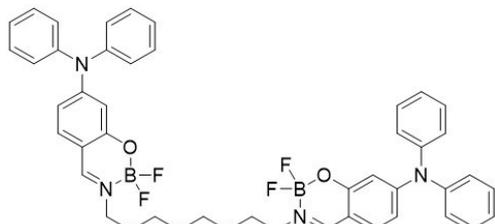
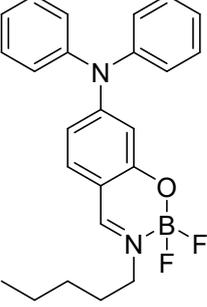
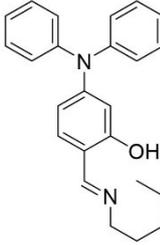
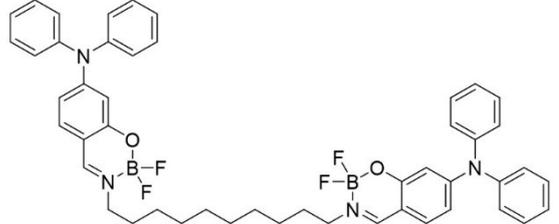
**TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-7:** m/z calculated C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>29</sub>BF<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O (M + H): 434.33, found: 434.20.

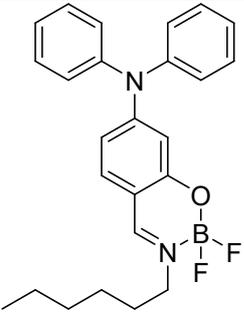
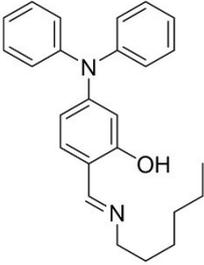
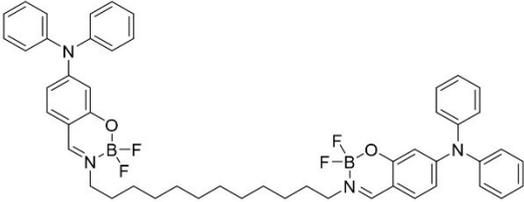
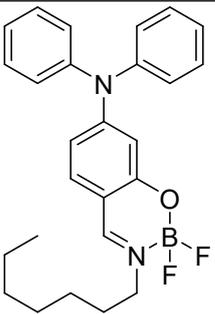
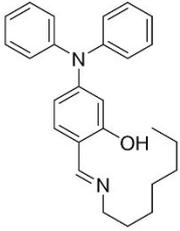
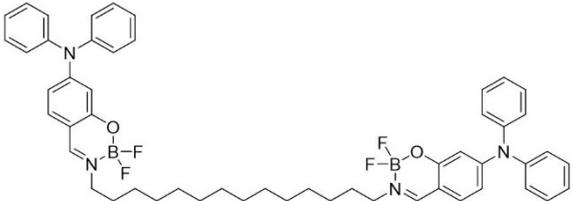


**TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-8:** m/z calculated C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>31</sub>BF<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O (M + H): 448.25, found: 448.20.

Table. Structure corresponding to the major two peaks of mass spectra.

Structure	Found M.wt.
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 <p><b>TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-2</b></p>	<p>Fragment 1: peak value: 316.90 M.wt: 316.40</p>  <p>Fragment 2: Peak value (M + Na): 749.800 Found (M+ Na): 749.38</p> 
 <p><b>TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-3</b></p>	<p>Fragment 1: peak value: 330.90 M.wt: 330.43</p>  <p>Fragment 2: Peak value (M + Na): 778.60 Found (M+ Na): 777.43</p> 
 <p><b>TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-4</b></p>	<p>Fragment 1: peak value: 344.90 M.wt: 344.46</p>  <p>Fragment 2: Peak value (M + Na): 806.600 Found (M+ Na): 805.49</p> 
	<p>Fragment 1: Peak value: 359.00 M.wt: 358.49</p>  <p>Fragment 2: Peak value (M + Na): 833.90 Found (M+ Na): 833.54</p> 

<p><b>TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-5</b></p>	
 <p><b>TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-6</b></p>	<p>Fragment 1: Peak value: 372.900 M.wt: 372.51</p>  <p>Fragment 2: Peak value (M + Na): 862.40 Found (M+ Na): 861.6</p> 
 <p><b>TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-7</b></p>	<p>Fragment 1: Peak value: 386.90 M.wt: 386.54</p>  <p>Fragment 2: Peak value (M + Na): 890.40 Found (M+ Na): 889.65</p> 

	Quantum yield (%)
<b>TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-2</b>	1.9
<b>TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-3</b>	2.2
<b>TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-4</b>	4.1

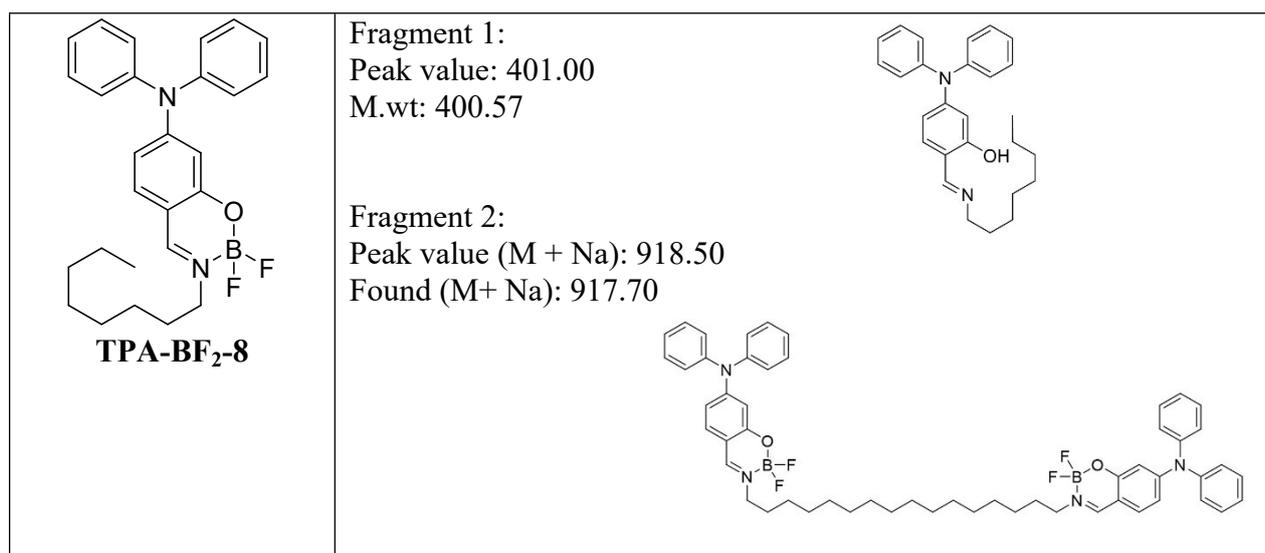


Table S1. Fluorescence efficiency of **TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>** complexes.

<b>TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-5</b>	7.5
<b>TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-6</b>	7.8
<b>TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-7</b>	12.6
<b>TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-8</b>	8.2

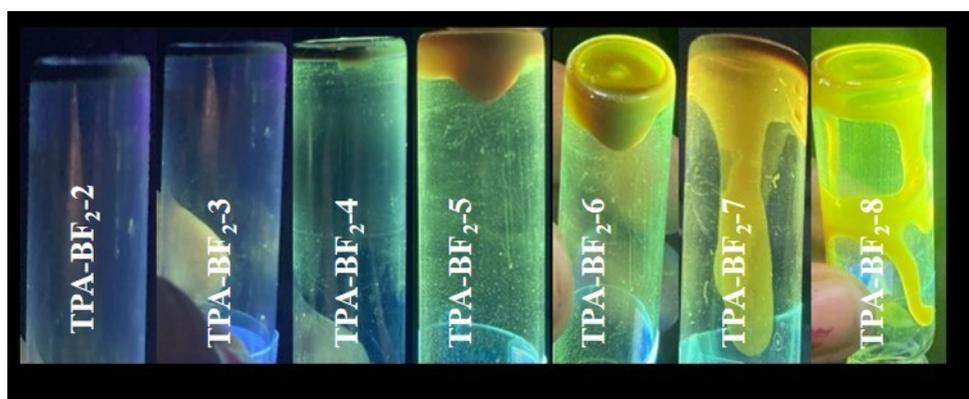


Figure S1. Digital fluorescence images of **TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>** complexes.  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 365$  nm.

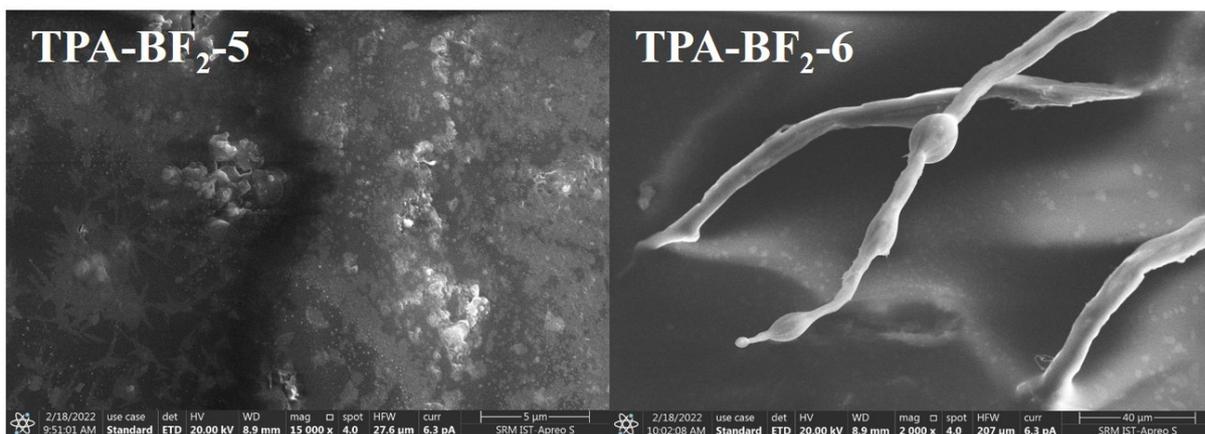


Figure S2. FE-SEM images of TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-5 and TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-6 complexes.

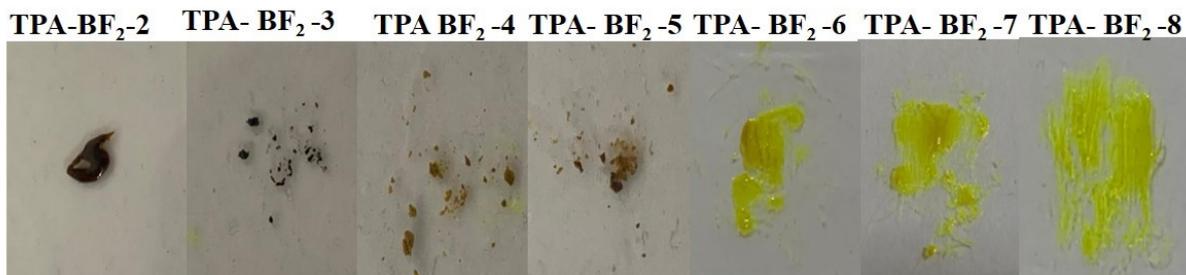


Figure S3. Digital images of TPA-BF<sub>2</sub> complexes.

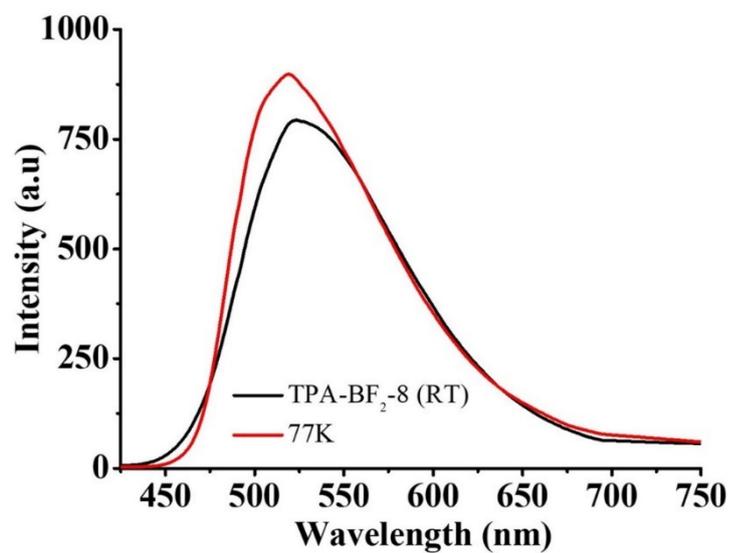


Figure S4. Fluorescence spectra of TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-8 at RT and 77K.

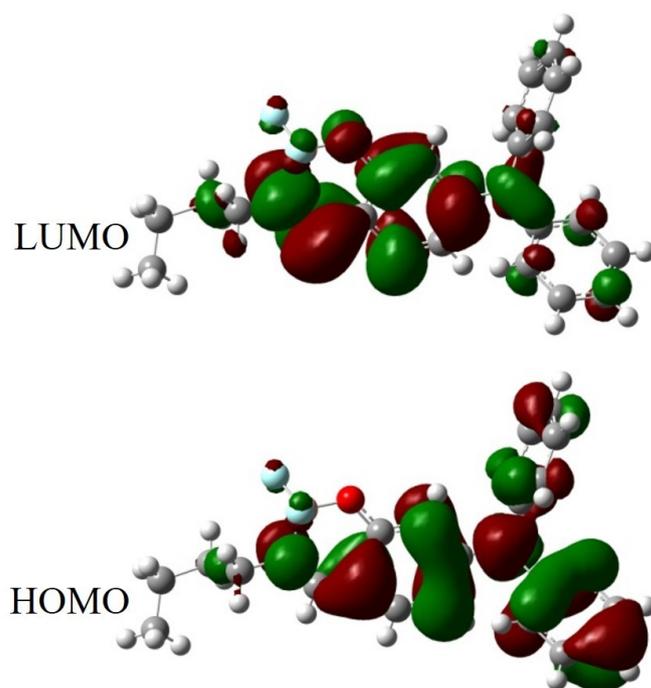


Figure S5. HOMO-LUMO molecular orbital diagram of TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-4.

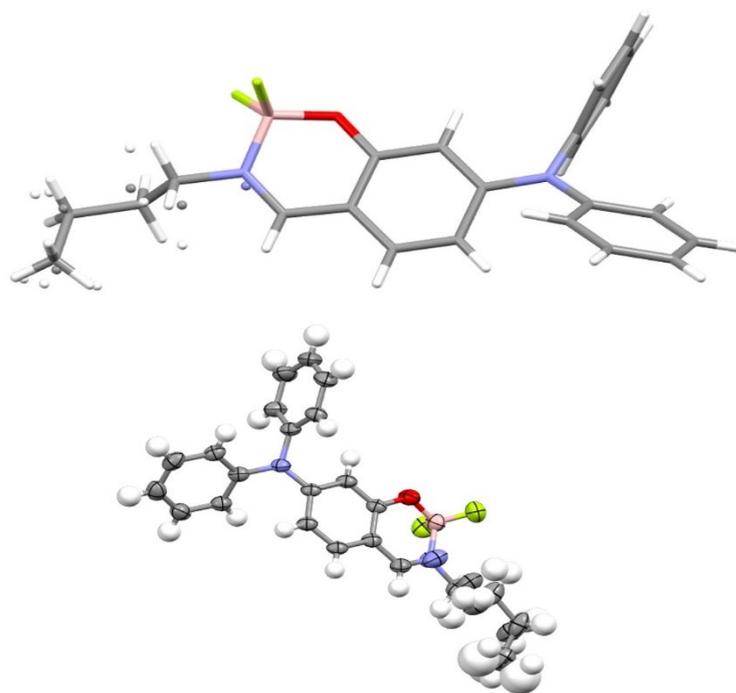


Figure  
S6.

Disordered molecular structure and ORTEP (50% probability) structure of TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-4.

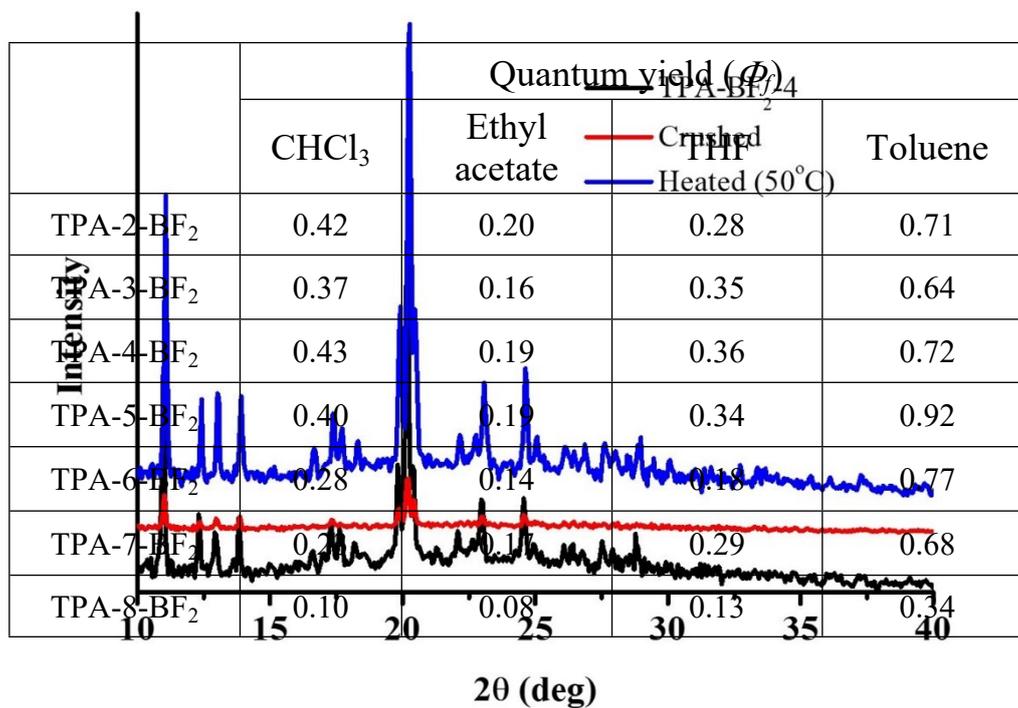


Figure S7. PXRD of TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-4.

Table S2. Quantum yield of TPA-BF<sub>2</sub> complexes in different solvent compared to quinine sulphate standard.

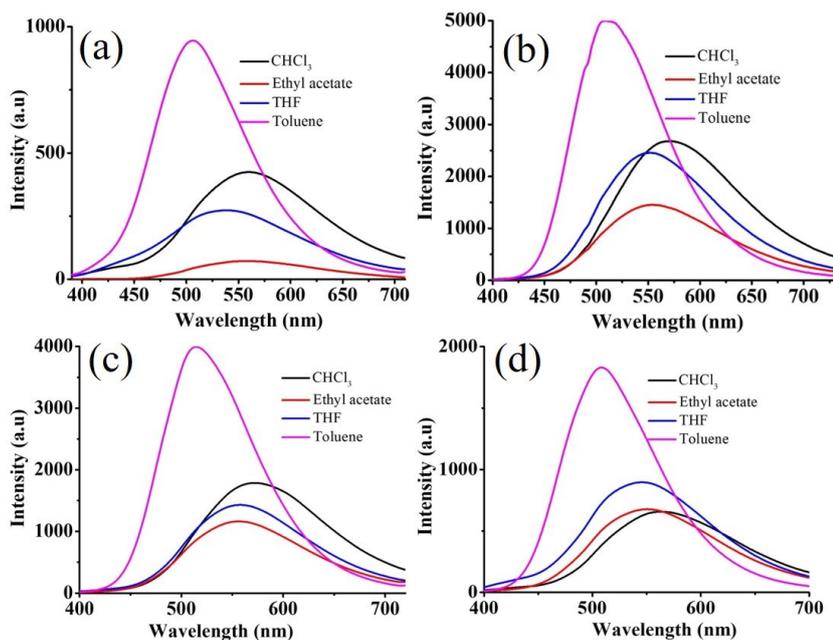


Figure S8. Fluorescence spectra of (a) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-3, (b) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-4, (c) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-6 and (d) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-8 in different solvent polarity.

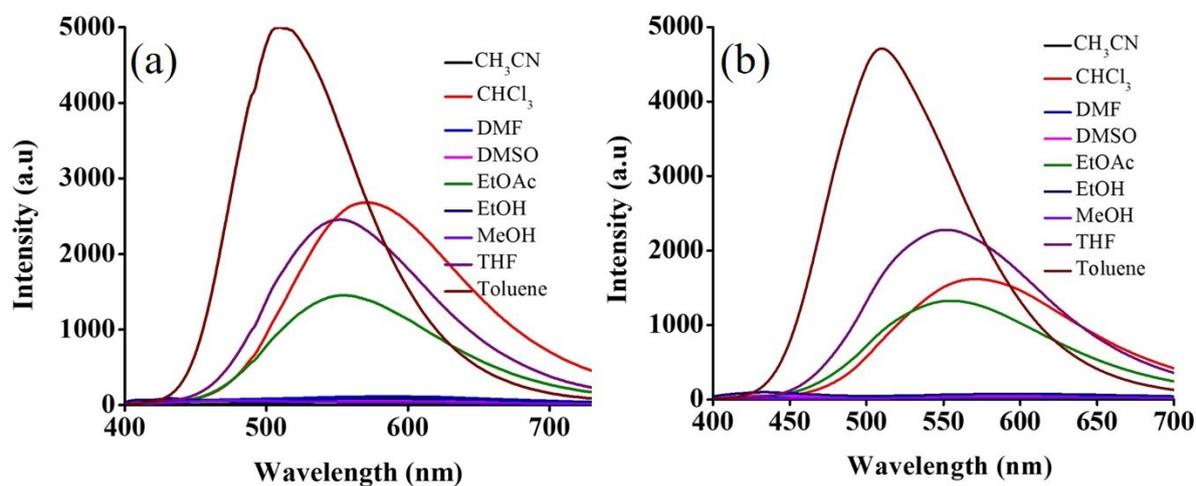


Figure S9. Fluorescence spectra of (a) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-4 and (b) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-7 in different solvent polarity.

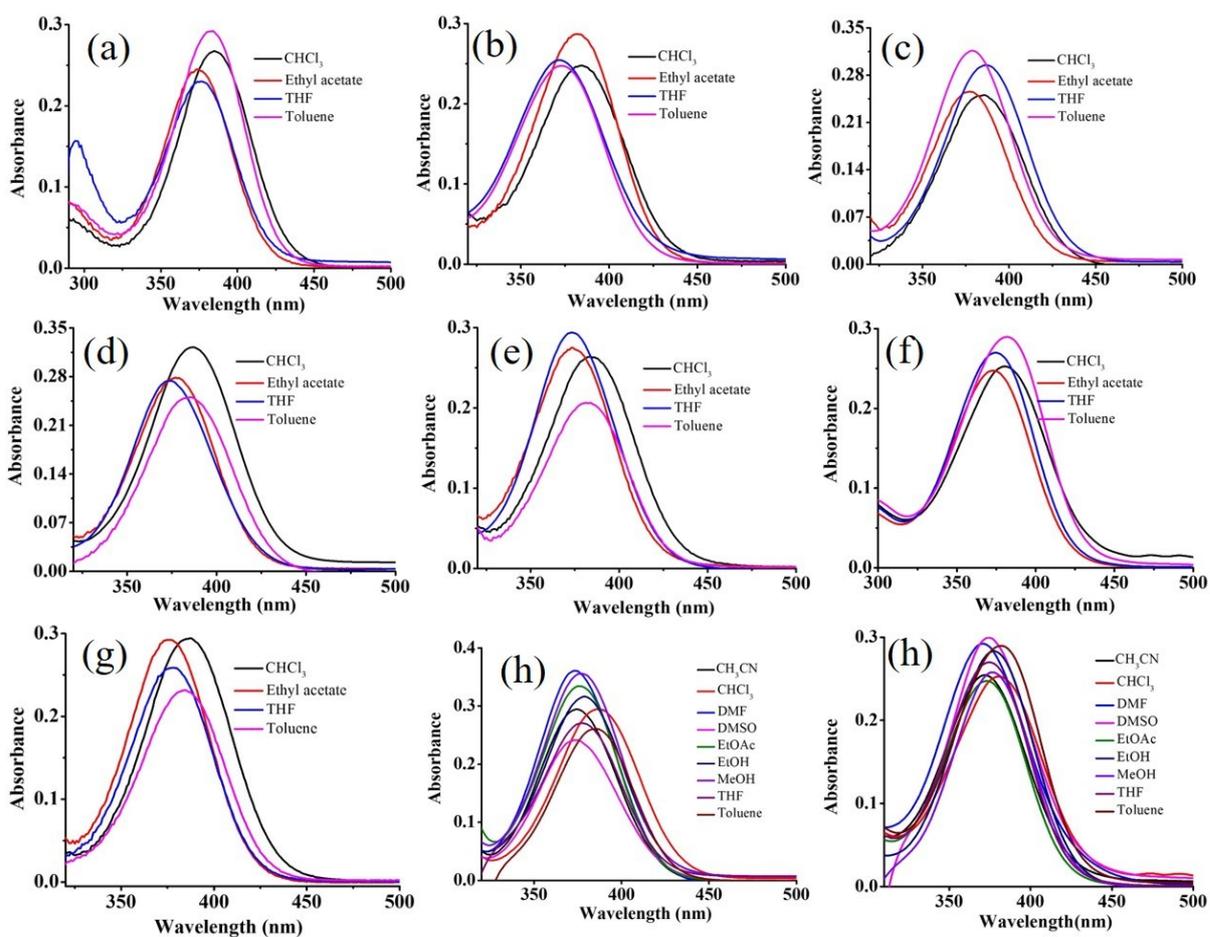


Figure S10. Absorption spectra of (a) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-2, (b) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-3, (c, h) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-4, (d) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-5, (e) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-6, (f, h) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-7 and (g) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-8 in different solvent polarity.

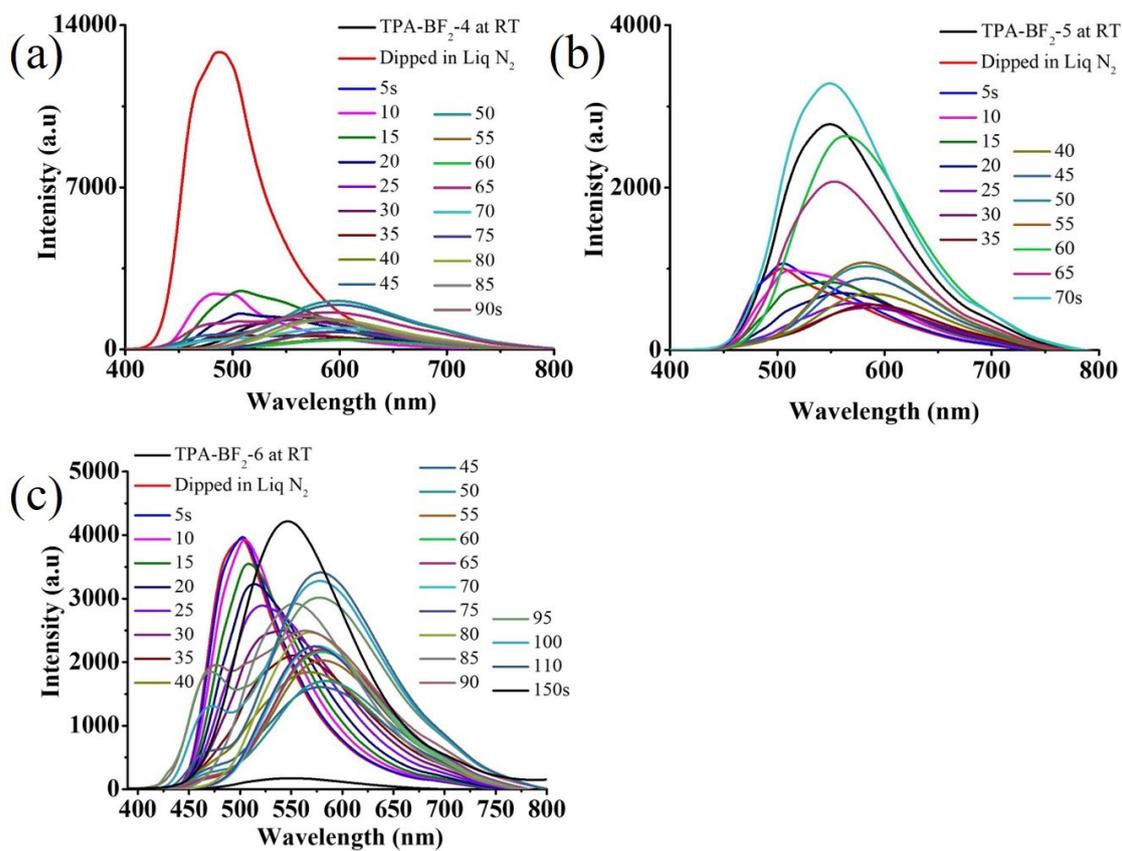


Figure S11. Fluorescence tuning of (a) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-4, (b) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-5 and (c) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-6 complexes in CHCl<sub>3</sub> while warming from 77K to RT.  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 370$  nm.

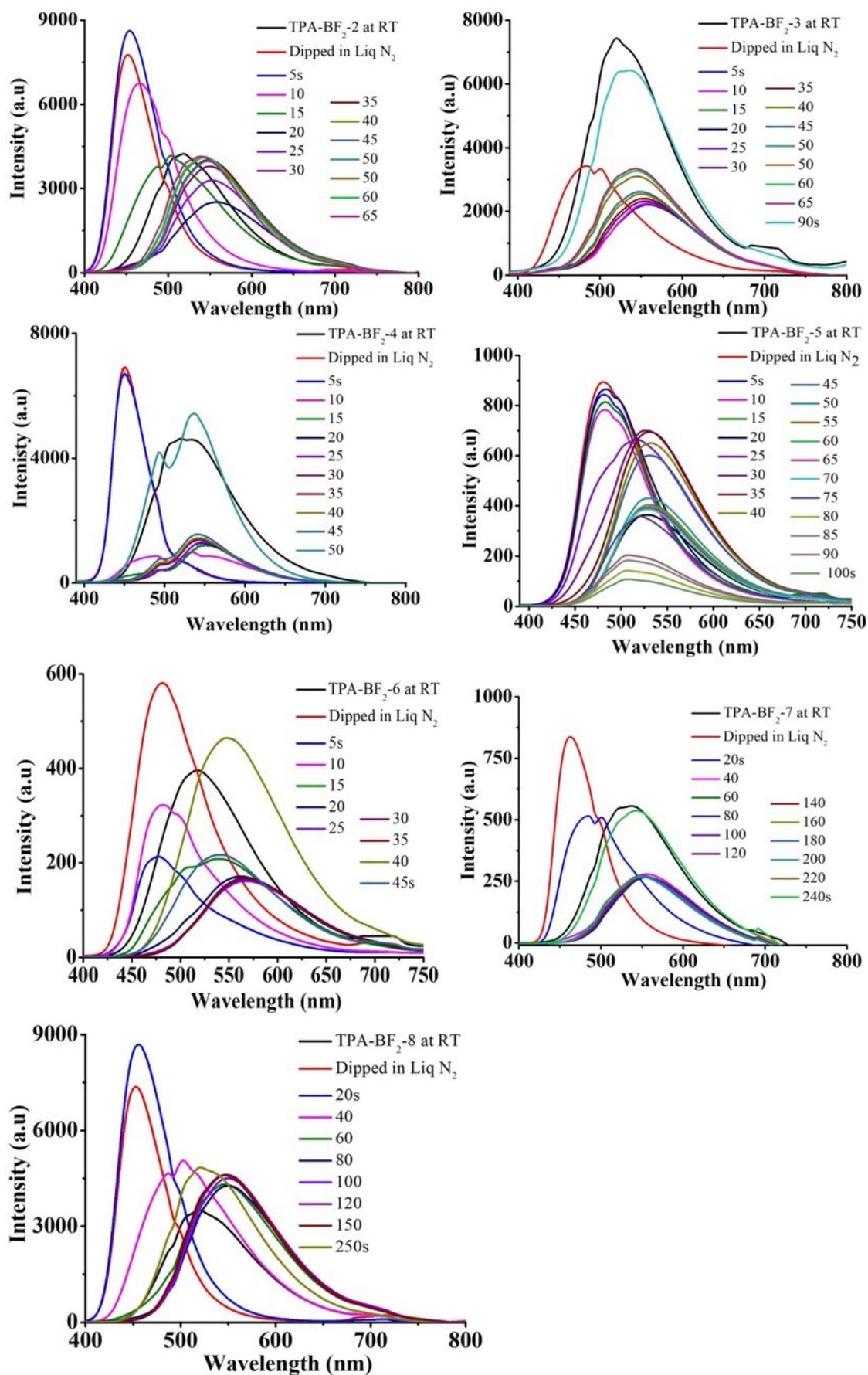


Figure S12. Fluorescence tuning of TPA-BF<sub>2</sub> complexes in toluene while warming from 77K to RT.  $\lambda_{exc} = 370$  nm.

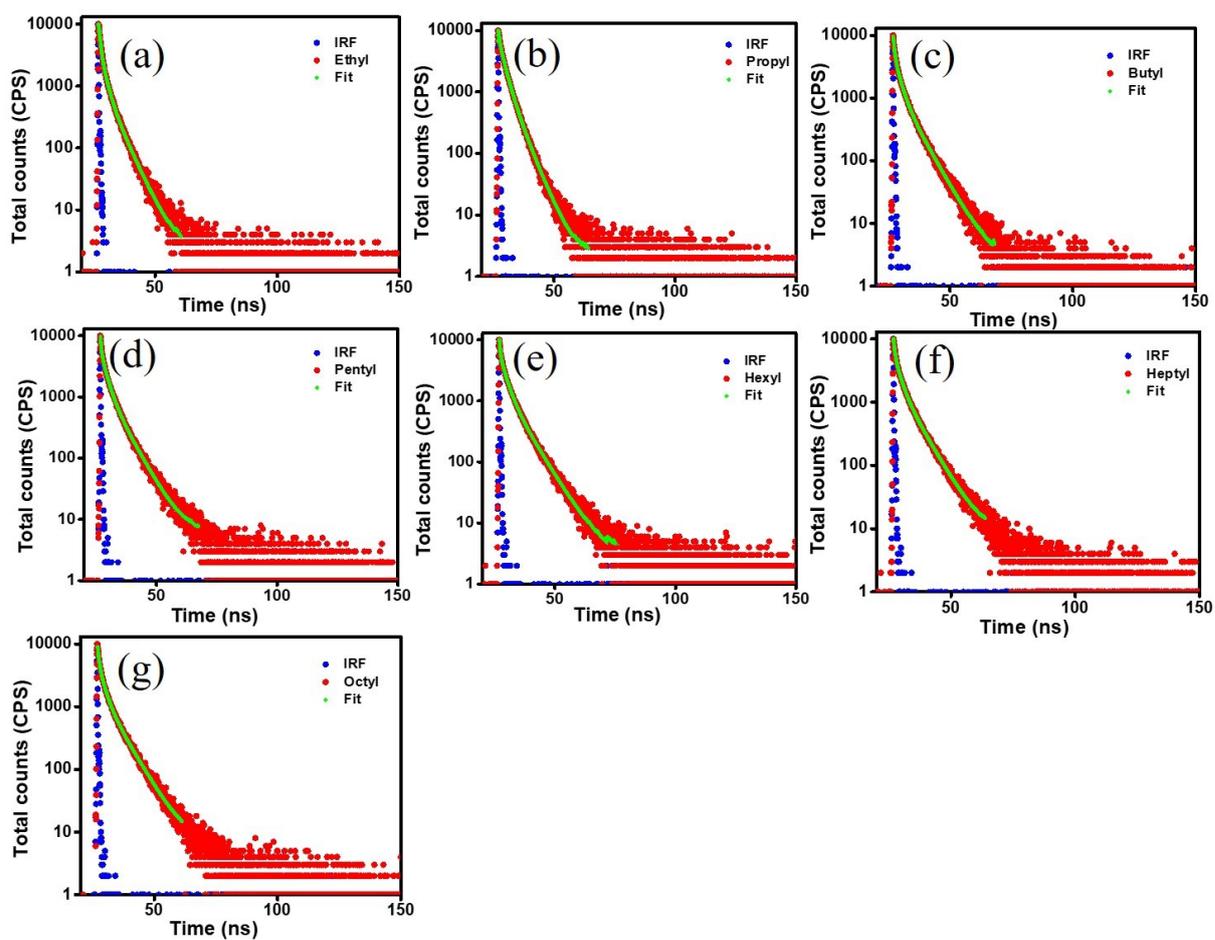


Figure S13. Fluorescence lifetime decay (a) **TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-2**, (b) **TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-3**, (c) **TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-4**, (d) **TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-5**, (e) **TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-6**, (f) **TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-7** and (g) **TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-8** complexes in CHCl<sub>3</sub> at RT.

**Table S3.** Shows the  $\chi^2$  value and fluorescence life time decay of ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, hexyl, octyl respectively in solution state,  $B_1$ ,  $B_2$ ,  $B_3$  are relative individual component contributions to  $\tau_1$ ,  $\tau_2$ ,  $\tau_3$ .  $\langle \tau \rangle$  (ns) is the average lifetime from multiple decay profiles.

	$B_1$	$B_2$	$B_3$	$\tau_1$	$\tau_2$	$\tau_3$	$\langle \tau \rangle$ (ns)	$\chi^2$
TPA-2-BF <sub>2</sub>	0.26	0.09	0.65	1.935	5.079	0.554	2.64	1.10
TPA-3-BF <sub>2</sub>	0.38	0.14	0.49	2.264	4.654	0.354	2.99	1.09
TPA-4-BF <sub>2</sub>	0.27	0.10	0.63	2.06	6.248	0.397	3.60	1.17
TPA-5-BF <sub>2</sub>	0.25	0.10	0.65	2.104	6.043	0.293	3.64	1.31
TPA-6-BF <sub>2</sub>	0.28	0.11	0.61	2.419	6.816	0.316	4.20	1.07
TPA-7-BF <sub>2</sub>	0.26	0.15	0.59	2.061	6.331	0.319	4.29	1.12
TPA-8-BF <sub>2</sub>	0.28	0.13	0.60	1.946	6.396	0.338	4.08	1.03

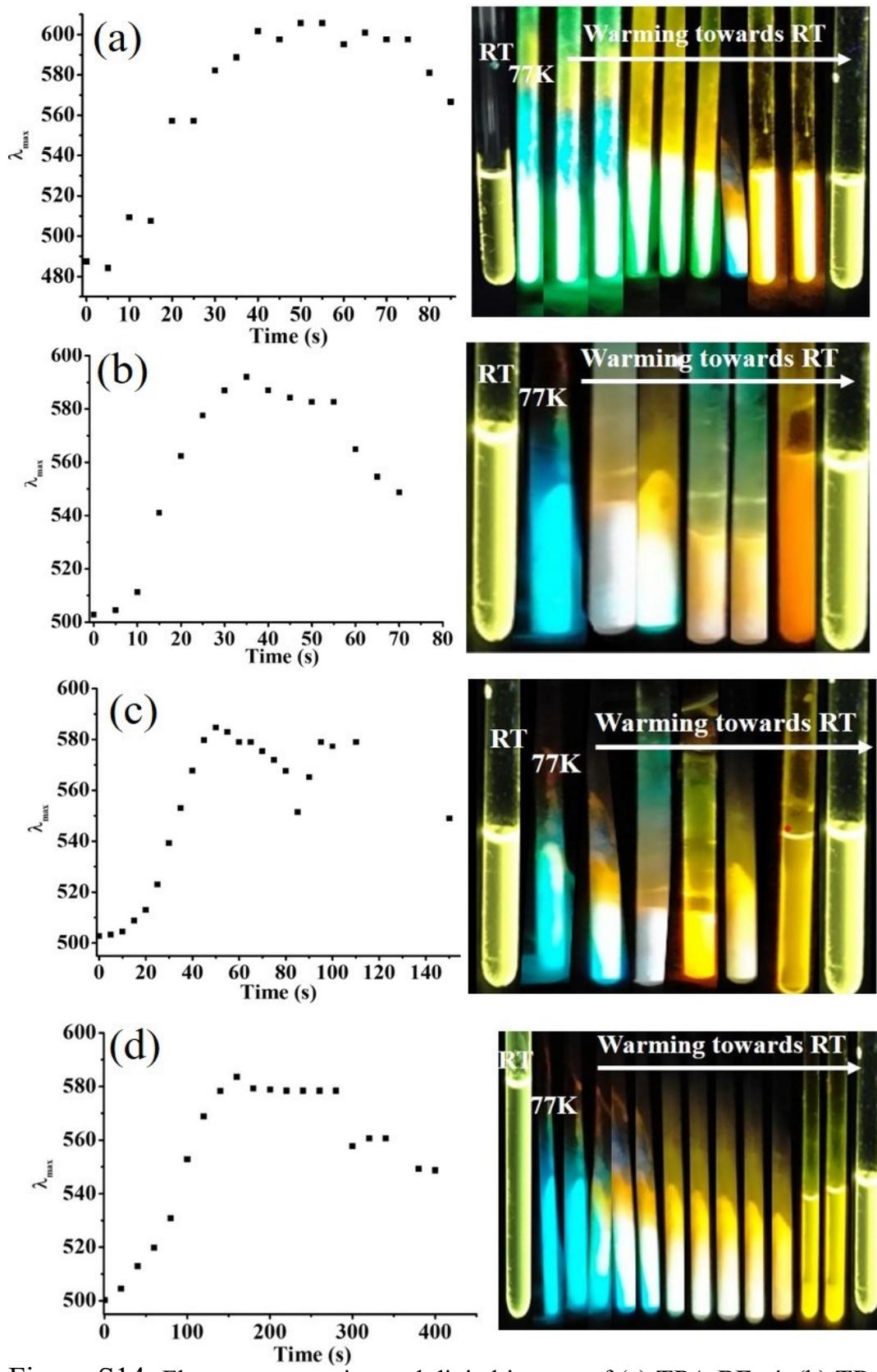


Figure S14. Fluorescence tuning and digital images of (a) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-4, (b) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-5 and (c) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-6 in CHCl<sub>3</sub> while warming from 77K to RT.  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 370 \text{ nm}$ .

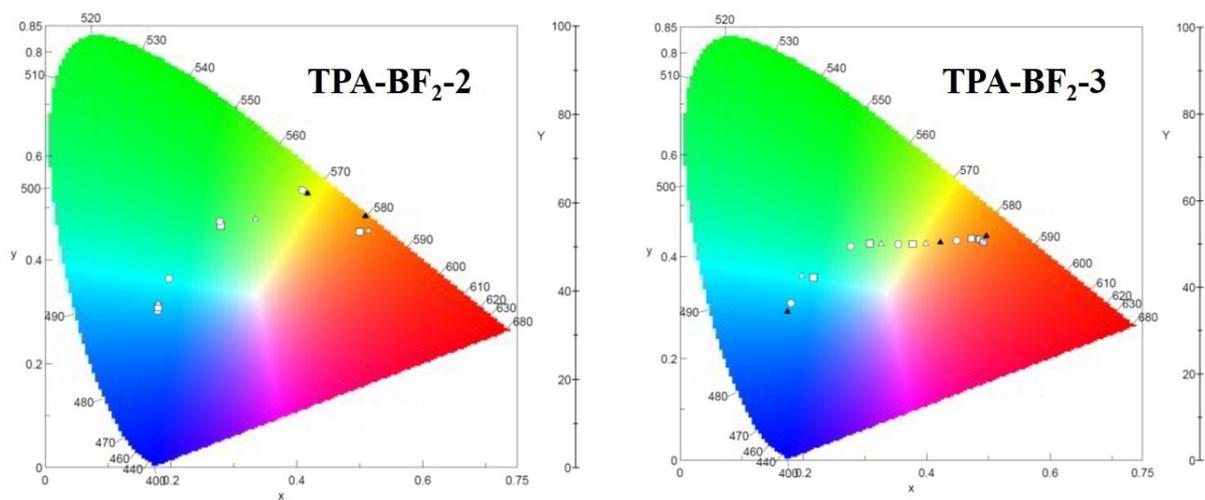


Figure S15. CIE 1931 chromaticity plot with emission colour coordinates of fluorescence tuning in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ .

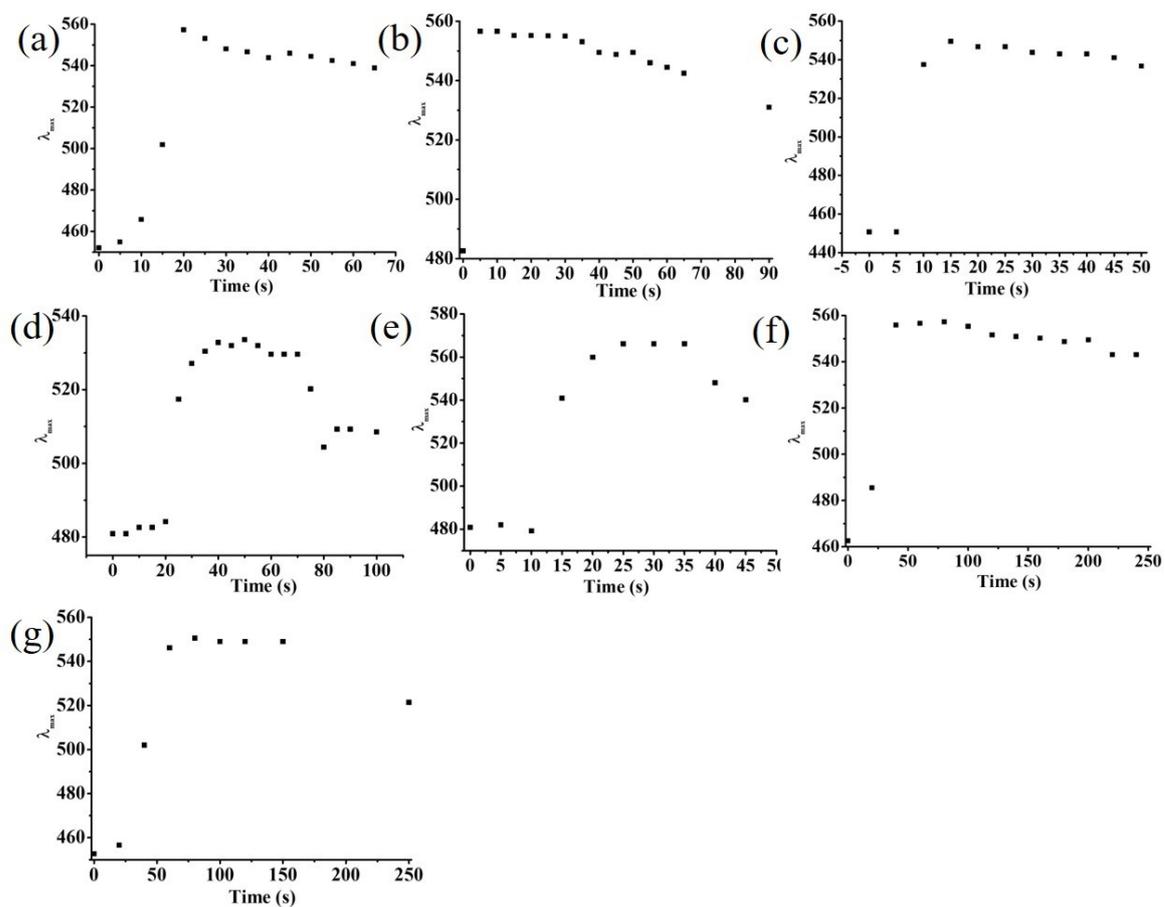


Figure S16. Fluorescence tuning of (a) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-2, (b) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-3, (c) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-4, (d) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-5, (e) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-6, (f) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-7 and (g) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-8 in toluene while warming from 77K to RT.  $\lambda_{exc} = 370$  nm.

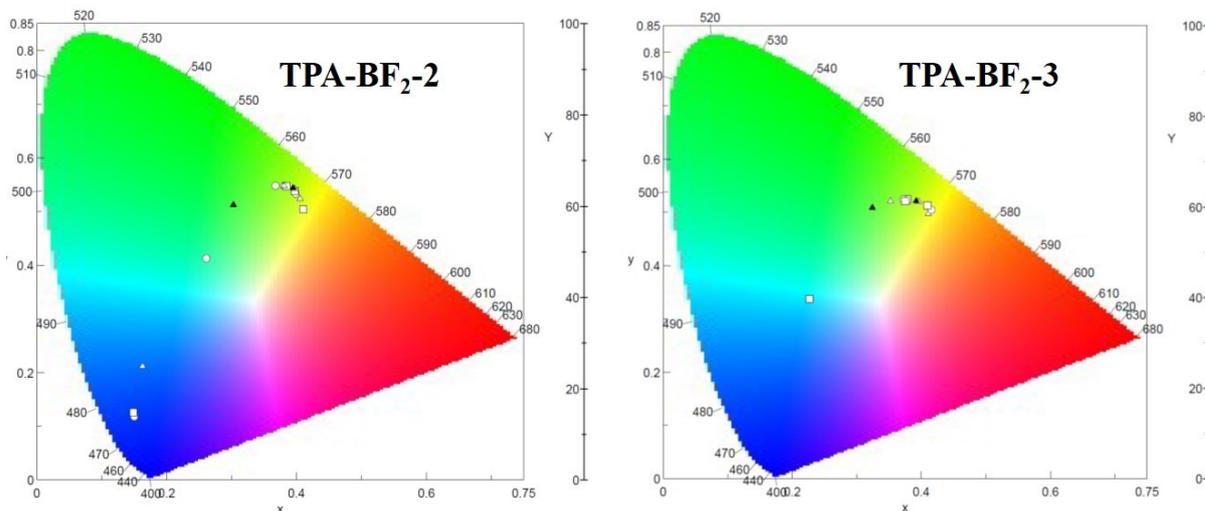


Figure S17. CIE 1931 chromaticity plot with emission colour coordinates of fluorescence tuning in toluene.

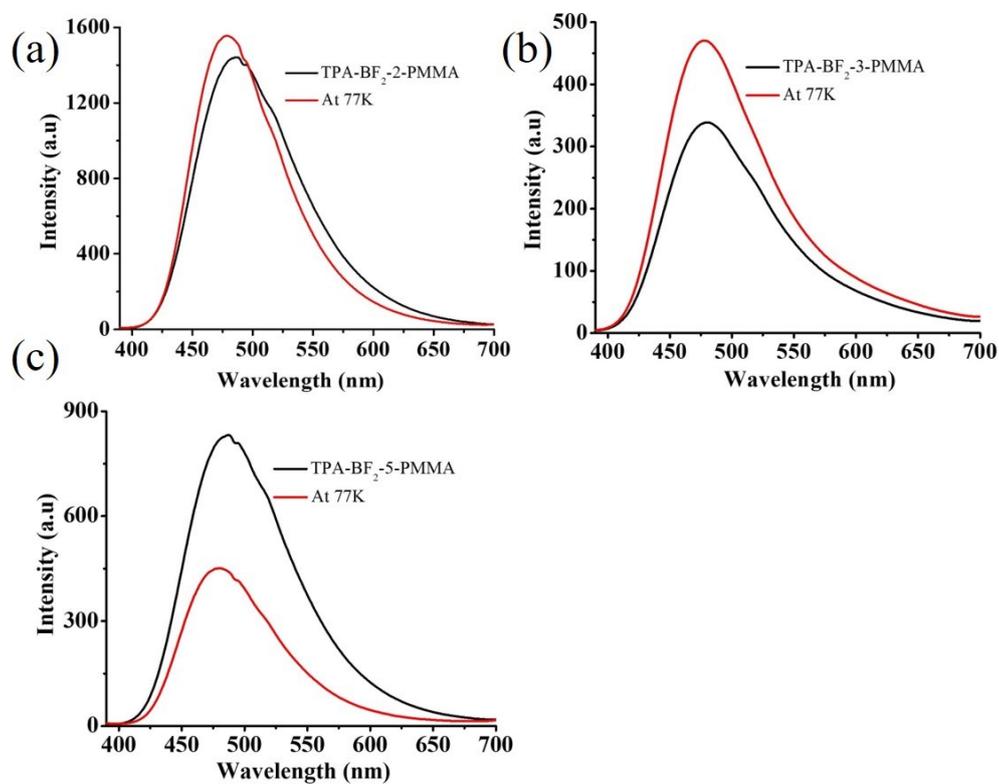


Figure S18. Fluorescence spectra of TPA-BF<sub>2</sub> in PMMA matrix at RT and 77K.

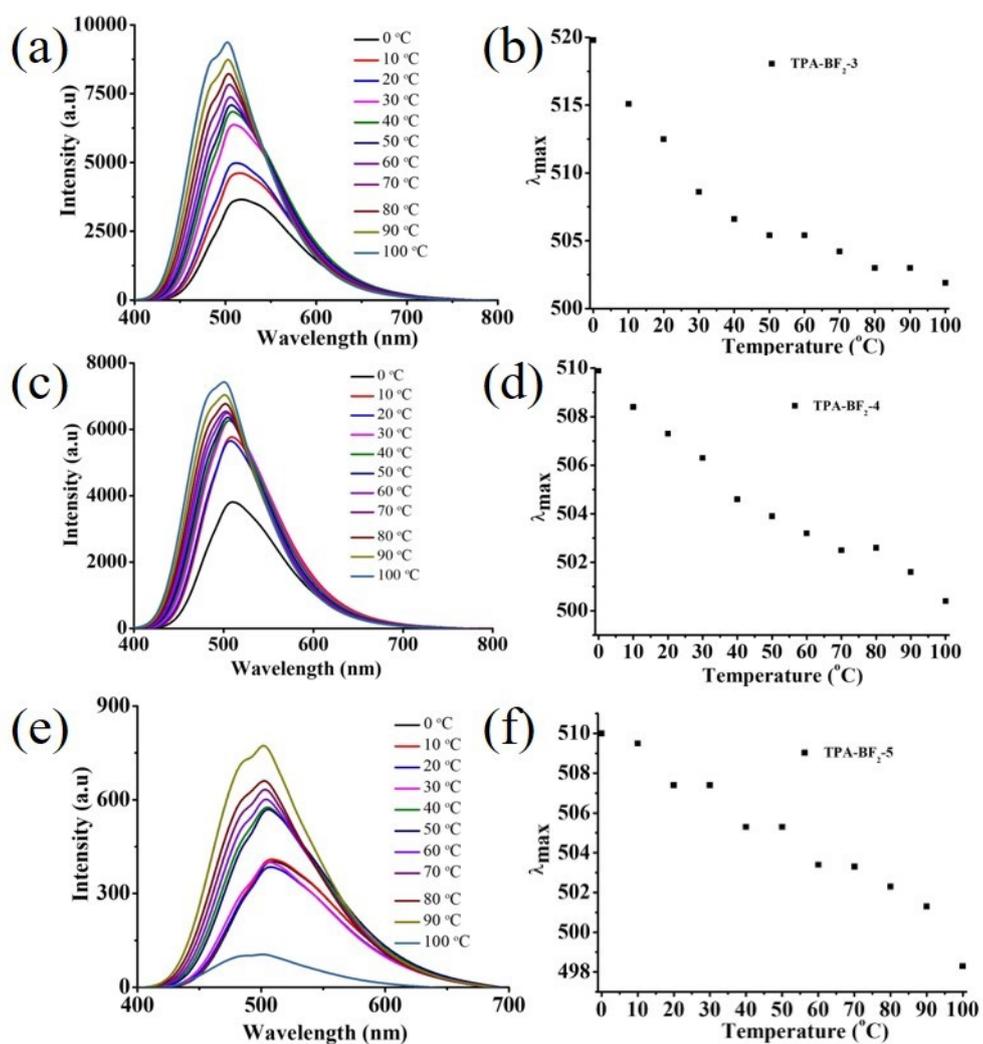


Figure S19. Thermofluorochromism of (a, b) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-3, (c, d) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-4 and (e, f) TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-5 in toluene (Conc. = 10<sup>-5</sup> M).

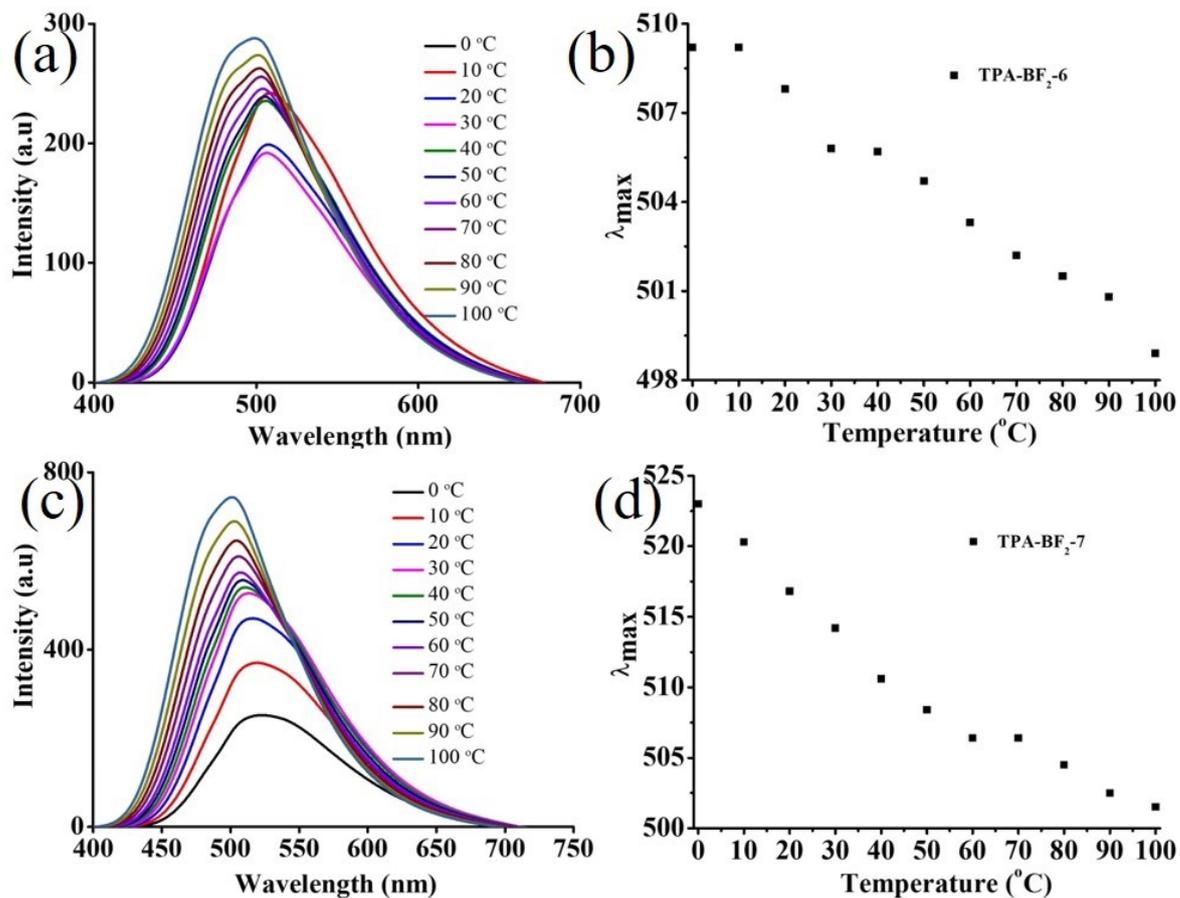


Figure S20. Thermofluorochromism of (a, b) **TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-6** and (c, d) **TPA-BF<sub>2</sub>-7** in toluene (Conc. = 10<sup>-5</sup> M).